

Tuesday
8th March, 1949

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

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CONSTITUTENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Tuesday, 8th March, 1949.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

DAKOTAS USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

*938. **Shri B. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state what is the total number of Dakotas used for commercial purposes in India?

(b) How many of these have been purchased from Disposals and how many are new?

(c) What is the life of the old Dakotas purchased from Disposals?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) 114.

(b) All the Dakotas were purchased from Disposal stocks of India and other countries and none was new.

(c) The normal life of a Dakota is 10 years if properly maintained. The Dakotas in operation in India now are expected to last for about two or three years more.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: May I know whether the ten years' life is for the new or for the old Dakota?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: Normal life is the life of a new Dakota.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: There is a material difference between the new and old Dakota. I want to know in view of the safety of the passengers whether this ten years is the normal life of a new dakota or an old dakota?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: The normal life of a new dakota is ten years.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: May I know whether in view of the large number of such old dakotas which were purchased by the air companies, whether periodical test is made necessary by the licensing authorities of these old dakotas?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: Every year they have to be overhauled.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: What is the capacity of a Dakota?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: 21.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: Have any complaints come from the companies who are running these dakotas that if they had aeroplanes of bigger capacity, they would be better off as far as their profits were concerned?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: There is no such complaint but that is a fact. If they have aeroplanes of bigger capacity, then perhaps it will be cheaper.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: Are the Government encouraging the companies to get bigger aeroplanes?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: Does it arise?

Shri H. V. Kamath: How many flying accidents have occurred on the Dakotas in India?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: I require notice of that question.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know in view of what the Honourable Minister stated about the life of the old dakota which will be shorter than the new ones, will he take into consideration that from now onwards the air companies will be asked to put in new Dakotas after two years?

Mr. Speaker: That will be a suggestion for action.

MANUFACTURE OF PENICILLIN

*939. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 861 asked on the 4th September, 1948 and state whether Major General Bokhey, who was sent to Europe and the United States of America to explore the possibility of the manufacture of penicillin in India has made his report?

(b) If so, what are his recommendations and what are the decisions of Government thereon?

(c) Has the proposal of the Government of Madras to set up a penicillin factory in the Nilgiris been considered by Government in the light of the report received from Major General Bokhey?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report recommended the establishment of a State factory for the manufacture of Penicillin, Paludrine and Sulpha Drugs in collaboration with a Swedish firm. The main recommendations have been approved by Government. An agreement has been concluded with this firm whose representatives recently came out to India. Necessary action is now being taken to implement the scheme.

(c) The proposal was dropped as the firm who sponsored it decided not to proceed with their plan any further.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know the name of the country the Honourable Minister mentioned? ..

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Sweden.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether Major General Bokhey is an employee of Government, whether Central or Provincial Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Not of Central Government. He is associated with the Haffekene Institute, Bombay.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What is the total investment for the Factory?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: About a crore and a half.

Shri H. V. Kamath: In view of the fact that this big factory is going to cost us 1½ crores, does Government visualize the setting up of any factory for the manufacture of cheap Ayurvedic drugs?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Where is the new factory to be located?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The place we have selected provisionally is Dehu Road near Bombay.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Are there any special advantages in selecting that place?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There are.

Shri R. K. Sidha: May I know whether production will be self-sufficient from this factory or we shall have yet to import from foreign countries?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We hope to meet the requirements of Government but we may have to import other quantities for private consumption.

Seth Govind Das: How long will it take to start this?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We hope to start in a few months and we expect to produce in a year and a half.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: What is the quantity expected from this factory?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: 100,000 million international units per month.

Shri R. K. Sidha: What is the consumption of private individuals?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As much as we can supply.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IN DELHI FOR RAILWAY STAFF FROM PAKISTAN

*940. **Shri R. K. Sidha:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railway be pleased to state how many Railway Gazetted Officers repatriated from Pakistan have been provided with housing accommodation in Delhi?

(b) How many of the non-Gazetted staff especially Railway Clerical (Pakistan) staff have been provided with housing accommodation in Delhi?

(c) What steps do Government intend to take to provide houses for clerical staff who come under the classification of "essential service"?

(d) How long have they remained without being provided with houses?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) 56.

(b) 1,045 Class III and IV staff have been accommodated in Delhi. Of these 415 are clerical staff. In addition, 321 employees have been accommodated at Muradnagar, of which 200 are clerical staff.

(c) New quarters are being provided. The Central Public Works Department have also agreed to release gradually the 200 quarters constructed by them on Railway land on Minto Road.

(d) Since repatriation from Pakistan.

Shri R. K. Sidha: May I know what actual steps have been taken regarding answer given to (c) by the Minister that arrangement is being made to provide quarters? What is the position today?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: The position today is as I have stated. The C.P.W.D. have constructed 200 clerical quarters in Minto Road and these have been allotted to various people in the Government of India. They are going to be released shortly. The East Punjab Railway have also been constructing quarters. At present 68 are under construction.

Shri R. K. Sidha: Are any quarters planned for construction in the immediate future?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: Sanction has been accorded to construct 200 more quarters.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that there are large sites vacant in Delhi which are suitable for the quarters for staff?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: I require notice.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable Minister enquire into it?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: Yes.

MANUFACTURE OF STEAM ROLLERS

*941. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the total number of steam rollers built in India during the year 1948 and the country's annual requirements?

(b) Where were these rollers manufactured?

(c) Is any subsidy or any other protection or concession given to this industry and if so, what are the details thereof?

(d) Are all the parts of the said rollers made in India or are the rollers merely assembled in India with foreign imported parts?

(e) What are the rates for Indian rollers as compared with foreign rollers of the same type?

(f) How many rollers have been purchased by Government?

(g) Do Government contemplate opening their own factory for this industry and if so, do Government propose to disclose their plan?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The total number of steam road rollers built in India during 1948 was 118. The country's annual requirement is estimated at about 175.

(b) The component parts of the rollers were manufactured mainly by the Ordnance Factories and the trade in India. The final assembly was done by Messrs. Tata Locomotive Engineering Co., Ltd., Tatanagar, who manufacture some of the parts. The work is co-ordinated and supervised by a Technical Co-ordination Cell formed in India by Messrs. Marshall Sons and Co., Ltd., England.

(c) No subsidy or concession has been given but the importation of road rollers into the country has been much restricted.

(d) At present 87½ per cent. of the components, excluding the boilers, are being manufactured in India and 12½ per cent. are imported. Of the boilers, 84 per cent. are being imported and 16 per cent will be manufactured in India. In the final stage, it is expected that 95 per cent. of the manufacture will be indigenous and only 5 per cent. imported.

(e) The final price of the Indian steam road-rollers has not yet been fixed as the contract has been placed on 'cost plus' basis, but is expected that it will compare favourably with the price of imported rollers. The present price of the imported steam road rollers similar to those being manufactured in India is approximately Rs. 28,500 each.

(f) 727 steam road rollers have been purchased so far, out of which 118 are indigenously manufactured and the rest are imported.

(g) The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part of the question, therefore, does not arise.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether, apart from steam rollers there are any diesel rollers also manufactured, and if so whether any orders have been placed?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Yes. We have two schemes for the manufacture of diesel road rollers which are being done at Jessops and Co. Ltd., in Calcutta, in collaboration with Messrs Aveling Barford Ltd. England. The present arrangement is for the manufacture of 475 diesel road rollers.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has any one such roller been actually turned out from the Jessops workshop?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Up till the 31st December, 1948, 64 diesel road rollers have been completed; and according to the latest information which we got about a week back, 84 have been completed and 27 are in various stages of manufacture.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: The Honourable Minister stated that in the final stage about 95 per cent. will be manufactured here. May I know in what period of time that final stage will be reached?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It depends on some technical assistance we are trying to get. We are trying to expedite the process and hope that within three or four years' time this percentage will be reached.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: What is the experience with Indian rollers, as compared with foreign rollers? Do they have the same efficiency?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The experience is satisfactory.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: The Honourable Minister stated that the question of fixing the price is under consideration. May I know whether the price of the rollers which have been turned out, has been fixed? When is the price likely to be fixed?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: After 100 rollers have been completed, we will be in a position to determine what should be the price of a roller. Meanwhile we are making some *ad-hoc* payments, after examination of the accounts for each month. We have sent out some cost officers to look into the matter.

MANUFACTURE OF VANASPATHI

***942. Dr. Mono Mohan Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what is the total quantity of hydrogenated vegetable oil (vanaspathi) manufactured in the Indian Union during the current year?

(b) What is the modern scientific opinion about its being injurious to human health?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) 130,000 tons.

(b) The matter is under scientific investigation.

Seth Govind Das: May I know what steps Government are taking to see that there may not be any mixture of this vegetable ghee with ordinary and pure ghee? And are Government contemplating stopping at least hydrogenation of this oil?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The question of hydrogenation is under the consideration of the Government.

In regard to the prevention of adulteration, all possible steps are being taken. But it is a fact that all cases of adulteration are not checked or punished. In Delhi there were 16 convictions in 1947 and about 90 in 1948.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: The Honourable Minister said that the question is under consideration. When does the Government expect to get the final report after this investigation?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: By September 1949. The fact is they are examining the effect of the use of Vanaspathi, not only on the first generation, but on three generations, as some scientists have contended that in the second and third generations deleterious effects are observed. One scientist says that there will be some effect on eyesight and productivity. So the matter is to be carefully examined.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Are Government aware that it is wellnigh impossible to get pure ghee in the market?

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member is giving information, and not asking a question.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Which are the scientific institutions or organisations in India that are engaged in this research today?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The University College of Science and Technology, Calcutta, the Indian Science Institute, Bangalore, the Indian Dairy Institute, Bangalore, the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, the Nutrition Research Laboratory, Coonoor, and the Arya Orphanage, Delhi.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: For how many years has this investigation been proceeding?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It began last year. When talking of generations I was meant generations of rats, as the investigation is on rats largely.

AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS

*943. **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether efforts have been made to estimate the agricultural indebtedness in the country and if so, what is the total indebtedness of the agriculturists?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes. In 1930, the Indian Central Banking Committee estimated the total amount of rural indebtedness in undivided India at Rs. 900 crores. No systematic enquiries have been made since, but local enquiries in some Provinces point to the conclusion that owing to unprecedented rise in the prices of agricultural produce, agricultural indebtedness in the country has been substantially reduced.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: In view of the conflicting reports both from the Provincial Governments and the public, do Government intend to establish immediately an enquiry into the present indebtedness of the agriculturists?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government can obviously set up an enquiry only for certain selected areas. An enquiry all over the country is a matter of years. In regard to local enquiries, some Governments have made these local enquiries.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it a fact that Government has not made any enquiry into the indebtedness of agricultural workers?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think there has been some enquiry in Madras. For instance, I will give briefly the results of the Madras enquiry. It was found in the case of the medium, big and small landholders, that there was a reduction in indebtedness from 40 per cent. to 12 per cent. The indebtedness of tenants has increased by 4 per cent. and the indebtedness of labourers by 43 per cent. So there was an enquiry into the indebtedness of labourers.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know whether the indebtedness of agriculturists is due to the absence of banking facilities in rural areas?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not think so.

Seth Govind Das: Are Government aware that there are certain areas where in spite of the high prices, harvests have been failing continuously and therefore there the position of indebtedness still exists, and will Government make enquiries in those areas?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, Government will ask the Provincial Governments concerned to make the necessary enquiries.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: What steps do Government propose to take to supply cheap credit to the agriculturists?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The question of setting up an Agricultural Finance Corporation is under consideration.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Are Government taking any steps to control money-lenders?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is a provincial subject; and I believe in some provinces there are laws regulating the interest which money-lenders can charge.

Shri Biswanath Das: Have Government considered utilising the coming census for the purpose of this economic enquiry?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government will examine the question of including this item also in the census operations.

Shri Mohan Lal Gautam: What are the data on which Government conclude that agricultural indebtedness has been reduced in recent years?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Certain enquiries have been made. The provinces of Bihar, Orissa and U.P. have reported that small cultivators have not increased their possession of land. In regard to Assam, Bombay, Madras, C.P. and Punjab, provincial governments have reported increase of their land possessions.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have Government assured themselves that the increase in their holdings may not be due to the borrowing of money from others and then purchasing the land?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not in a position to deny that.

SUPPLY OF BAD RICE TO ANDHRA PUBLIC

*944. **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state why the quality of rice supplied to the public, especially in the Andhra districts, is so bad?

(b) Is the bad rice so supplied imported into India, and if so, from which country does this quality of rice come?

(c) Do the authorities check up the quality when shipments are received?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The Government of Madras supplies rice to Andhra districts. It is understood from the Provincial Government that boiled rice of the dalwa variety of paddy which is red in colour was issued to all the ceded districts. This rice is fit for consumption.

(b) This is locally produced rice and is not imported.

(c) Yes.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Have complaints reached the Honourable Minister to the effect that best quality rice can be had today only in the blackmarket?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: These complaints have been received.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Have Government received complaints from Madras City that Brazil Rice which becomes a paste the moment it is boiled is being dumped in Madras?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It does not come from Brazil: it is from Siam.

Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudhan: May we know from where we get the rice that is given by our Ration offices in Delhi?

Mr. Speaker: That question does not arise out of this?

Shri H. V. Kamath: What steps do Government propose to take to divert the black-market best rice into the open market?

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member is now going into the question of the black-market and corruption. It is not germane to the question.

Shri O. V. Alagasan: Are Government aware that the distributing agency is not so partial as the question implies but supplies uniformly bad rice to all areas?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri E. K. Sidhya: May I know whether the Bombay Government made a reference to the Government of India that the quality of rice supplied in Bombay was very inferior?

Mr. Speaker: The question deal primarily with the quality of rice in the Andhra Province and it is no use going into the general question.

DEVELOPMENT OF RUBBER INDUSTRY

*945. **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to make India self-sufficient in rubber production?

(b) Is it a fact that the Indian Rubber Board has submitted a fifteen crore scheme to develop the industry?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The Central Government have taken under their Control the development of rubber industry, so far as the production and marketing of rubber is concerned and have constituted a Board, called the Indian Rubber Board, under the Rubber (Production and Marketing Act, 1947. It is the function of the Indian Rubber Board to take suitable measures to increase production of rubber with a view to making the country self sufficient. They are actively examining the matter. Indian production is now 16,000 tons per annum and consumption about 21,000 tons.

(b) The Chairman of the Board at the Board's meeting held on 24th November, 1948 stated that a 15 crore scheme would have to be planned to make India self-sufficient in rubber. A Sub-committee of the Board has been appointed to examine the subject.

Srijit Kolahkar Chalhha: Are Government aware that there is a Government rubber experimental station in Assam and whether that is included in this scheme?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There is a station there and if any proposal is made by the authorities that scheme will be considered.

IMPORT OF MILK POWDER

*946. **Shri E. K. Sidhya:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state the total quantity and value of milk powder imported into India from foreign countries, during the years 1946, 1947 and 1948?

(b) What is the nutritive value of this powder?

(c) in what parts of the country is it mostly used?

(d) Is it used for any purpose other than the preparation of artificial milk?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

(b) The nutritive value of the milk powder calculated on a fresh weight basis is nearly equivalent to that of the milk from which it is made.

(c) Milk powder is generally used all over India and mostly in Madras, Bombay Provinces, and South Indian States such as Travancore, Cochin etc.

(d) Milk powder is used as a substitute for milk in all such preparations where milk is used. It is also used to a small extent by some biscuit, confectionery and chocolate manufacturers.

STATEMENT

Quantity and value of milk powder imported into India from foreign countries during 1946, 1947 and 1948 (up to end of October 1948.)

Year of Import	Quantity imported in cwt.	Value in Rupees
1946	90,938	55,12,588
1947	1,78,539	1,52,58,310
1948 (Up to the end of October 1948.)	48,943	45,70,992
GROSS TOTAL	3,18,420	2,53,41,890

Shri B. K. Sidha: May I know whether skimmed milk powder is imported into the country, and if so, what is its nutritive value?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, the nutritive value is the same except that the protein content is slightly less.

Shri B. K. Sidha: Is the same quantity of skimmed milk powder imported into the country, or is it less than the importation of milk powder?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am sorry I have not the separate figures for skimmed milk powder.

Shri B. K. Sidha: Is tone milk also manufactured in India?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, to some extent.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know, Sir, whether in view of the proposed increase in the supply of milk, there will be any change in the import policy of this particular commodity?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: May I explain that milk powder is being imported in order to increase the supply of milk to the more vulnerable sections of our population: for instance, the Bombay Government, with a view to enable children and patients and other weak persons to secure pure milk, have banned restaurants and hotels from using pure milk so that milk may be available to the public and they have provided restaurants with skimmed milk.

Seth Govind Das: Have Government received representations that the skimmed milk powder should be stopped so far as the importation of it is concerned?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We have received such representations?

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: With regard to the statement made by the Honourable Minister that the protein content of skimmed milk and of the milk from which it is made are different, what is his authority for the statement?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am sorry: I meant fat content, and not protein content. The Army which requires slightly lighter milk mixes this milk powder with the buffalo milk.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Is there no fat in skimmed milk?

Mr. Speaker: These are questions which are not within the special cognizance of the Honourable Minister.

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY OVER-BRIDGE AT GONDIA

***947. Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Railway lines in Gondia (Central Provinces) pass through the heart of the city and that as there is no over-bridge at one of the main crossings, great inconvenience is being caused to the public while crossing the lines?

(b) Are Government aware that assurances to construct an over-bridge were given to the public by the Railway Authorities but nothing has been done so far?

(c) If so, by what date will this bridge be constructed?

If so, by what date will this bridge be constructed?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: (a) Yes.

(b) The question of provision of an over-bridge at Gondia has been under reference with the Provincial Government since 1938. They first asked the Railway to construct an over-bridge and its approaches at the west end of the yard at their own cost. The Railway could not, however, accept the liability for the entire cost as the need for the over-bridge had arisen from the growth of the town. Three years later, the Provincial Government agreed to construct the approaches at their own cost, but desired that the Railway should build an under-bridge at the eastern end of the yard instead of an over-bridge at the western end of the yard. The engineering difficulties involved in the proposal were brought to the notice of the Provincial Government, who thereupon agreed to the construction of the over-bridge. On account of the war the work could not, however, be taken in hand. After the war, the Provincial Government again brought up the question of an under-bridge *versus* an over-bridge, and it is only recently that they have finally accepted the Railway's proposal to provide an over-bridge. Designs for the bridge have been finalised by the Railway, but the designs for the approaches have not yet been received from the Provincial Government.

(c) In view of the limited resources and the Government of India's decision to curtail or defer expenditure on such works as are not productive or could be postponed or slowed down, the work has not been included in 1949-50 Works Programme. The Government will consider if the work can be included in the Budget for 1950-51.

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware that the population of that place since 1938 has become practically doubled now?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I am willing to take that as stated by the honourable member. I myself have no personal knowledge.

Seth Govind Das: May I take it that all such works which are not remunerative, will not be taken up by the Government in spite of the greatest inconvenience caused to the public of.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid the question is hypothetical. He may put in a specific question with reference to any specific subject.

Seth Govind Das: The Honourable Minister has said that because it is not going to be a remunerative scheme, Government is not.....

Mr. Speaker: I have followed that. But his question is hypothetical. The honourable member may put any question for obtaining information.

COMMUNAL TEA STALL AT BILASPUR RAILWAY STATION

*948. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a Mohammedan Tea Stall at Bilaspur Railway Station (Bengal Nagpur Railway); and

(b) if so, why the communal stall is still existing there?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) Yes.

(b) Instructions have been issued to drop the communal tag.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether the Central Advisory Council last year this month passed a resolution to abolish all these communal stalls? May I also know how many stalls still exist and how many within one year have been removed?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: From the 1st January this year all refreshment rooms throughout the railways have been reorganized on a non-communal basis. So far as teastalls are concerned, the only point is to remove the boards. There is no objection to any one having tea at the stalls. These stalls are available for all people.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: My question was also with regard to the boards. Why have these boards not been removed? How much time does it require of the administration to remove a board?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The honourable member is arguing.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know in how many stations have these boards been removed?

Mr. Speaker: He wants notice.

Shri H. V. Kamath: When were the instructions issued about removing these communal boards?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: For this particular station on the 25th January 1949.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Will the Honourable Minister explain what he means by saying "organising these on non-communal lines"?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: So far as refreshment rooms are concerned there are to be only Vegetarian and non-vegetarian refreshment rooms and restaurants in the European style.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Is the Honourable Minister aware that there are still a large number of Muslim contractors running their Muslim hotels?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: There are no Muslim hotels now on the Railways.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know whether similar instructions have been issued to the Railways to see that vendors or hawkers on platforms do not cry *Hindu Cha* or *Muslim Cha*?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: That is the general spirit of all the instructions issued recently. I cannot give a specific answer to that particular question.

Mr. Tajamul Husain: Do Government propose to have only one kind of refreshment rooms on all the railways catering for both vegetarian and non-vegetarian and also European style customers?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: It has been considered desirable by the Central Advisory Committee for Railways to have separate Vegetarian and Non-vegetarian refreshment rooms, besides restaurants on the Western style.

BANANA RESEARCH STATION FOR ASSAM

*949. **Srijut Kuladhar Obalaha:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any Banana Research Station in Bihar, Orissa, Bengal and Assam?

(b) Are Government aware of the suitability of Assam soil for growing Bananas of different varieties?

(c) If so, do Government propose to set up Banana Research Stations in Upper Assam, where the rainfall is about 100 inches and more?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) No.

(b) and (c). Yes. As the production of bananas in Assam at present amounts to only about four per cent. of the estimated total production in India, it would not be appropriate to have a research station exclusively for that Province. There is, however, a proposal to set up a regional fruit research station at Krishnagar in West Bengal which will serve the Eastern zone of the Provinces growing bananas, namely, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar.

Srijut Kuladhar Chaliha: Are the Government aware that a small station has been started at Jorhat by the Agricultural Department and may I know if that station is under the consideration of the Central Government?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Is it suggested, that that research station should take up the question of bananas?

Srijut Kuladhar Chaliha: Yes, I suggest it.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is anything being done to develop either a research station or a manufacturing concern to manufacture banana powder as well as to preserve bananas?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There are some proposals to increase the production of bananas in the country. At present there is no concrete proposal to utilise this increased production by converting it into flour.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: In view of the statement of the Honourable the Prime Minister recently that emphasis should be laid on the use of bananas as part of our normal diet, do the Honourable Minister's department propose to devote any special attention to this question?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We do contemplate to increase the production of bananas in the country.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have Government made any study of the indigenous methods adopted in Malabar by the peasants as also Middle-class people to preserve bananas by drying them? If they have not studied the methods, will Government make an effort to do so?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Still the first portion of the question is there.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member is making a suggestion.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: If the second part of the question is out of order, I would suggest that the first portion is still in order, *viz.*, whether the Government have made any study of the indigenous methods adopted in Malabar for drying bananas and preserving them?

Mr. Speaker: I should like to make the position very clear. As I have stated very often, the question hour is to be taken advantage of for obtaining information as regards facts which are within the special cognizance of the Minister concerned. It is not an occasion for making suggestions or carrying on arguments. The question which the honourable member put was whether Government have studied, etc. I can see that anything can be put in the form of a question but every such question is not therefore necessarily admissible. Some may be permissible and others may be on the border line.

In regard to the honourable member's question, it is to be presumed that when Government want to try anything they would have also taken into consideration all the methods that are prevalent in the country. It is too obvious to require a question. If there is a question asking, "Are Government aware, etc.," that is a form which, in some cases, is permissible but in some obvious cases it is put with a view to give information that it is so and so. That is not asking for information. I am trying to regulate these proceedings with a view to enable the House to get more of real information which would be helpful to the House in knowing the activities of the Government in relation to the requirements of the country. So I do not propose to allow arguments on questions. There are many occasions when arguments can be advanced but the question hour should not be taken advantage of for arguing or giving information. It is intended chiefly for obtaining information and honourable members will see that they make the best use of it. I have no desire to gag any honourable member from expressing an opinion or making a suggestion. My point is that the question hour is not the proper occasion; there are other occasions for honourable members.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that Government is undertaking a planned production of bananas, tapioca and sweet potatoes with a view to make up the country's food deficit?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government are contemplating it.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: I want to know the idea underlying this banana research, whether it is the aim to increase the standard size of all bananas and to make all bananas sweet, including *cutchi kelas* used for vegetable purposes?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The object is to have more and more varieties, sweeter and sweeter and more and more of bananas.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Sir, I have the authority of the honourable member to put the questions Nos. 950 to 954.

Mr. Speaker: I have seen the authority but the wording is very vague. The authority says "I authorise so and so to put the questions standing in my name in my absence." It is not mentioned for what date the authority is given. I have often said in the House that the authority should be for a specific date. I do not think I can allow that kind of authority.

EDUCATION TO FARMERS IN REARING CATTLE

950. Shri Moturi Satyanarayana: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what facilities Government provide to the farmers and the cowherds for education in—

(i) rearing cattle; and

(ii) taking precautionary measures against disease?

(b) What steps have Government taken or propose to take for maintaining the standard health of cattle in India?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) and (b). The matter primarily concerns the Provincial and State Governments. The Central Government assist these Governments by sponsoring research, giving technical advice and co-ordinating the work of these Governments. The facilities which the Central Government provide for research are mentioned below:

- (1) Indian Veterinary Research Institute at Izatnagar and Mukteswar for research in the control and prevention of disease, animal genetics, animal nutrition and allied matters.

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

- (2) Indian Dairy Research Institute at Bangalore for research in matters connected with dairy development and dairy education.
- (3) Cattle Breeding Research Station recently established at Jubbulpore for evolving a general utility type of cattle of more than average and milking capacity. The question of the establishment of another Institute for the evolution of a high yielding dairy cow is under consideration.
- (4) The All-India Cattle Show Committee set up by the Central Government in 1938, which organizes an All-India Cattle and Poultry Show every year for giving impetus and encouragement to the cattle breeders.

A statement showing the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Governments of Madras, U.P., Orissa and Assam for maintaining the health of cattle is placed on the table of the House. Information pertaining to the other Provincial Governments is being collected and will be furnished to the House in due course.

STATEMENT

Measures taken or proposed to be taken for maintaining standard health of cattle

Madras

The Veterinary Institutions and Touring Billets of the Animal Husbandry Department are responsible for maintaining the standard of health of cattle in this Province. The Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in charge of Veterinary Institutions attend to the treatment of non-contagious diseases and the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons to the control and treatment of contagious diseases. The Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons also attend to non-contagious diseases during the course of their tours.

Veterinary Institutions.—There were 138 Institutions on the 31st March, 1948 and 3,23,947 animals were treated in these institutions during 1947-48.

Touring Billets.—There were 165 Touring Billets on 31st March 1948, each one manned by a Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. Twenty-nine of these billets had stockman compounders to assist the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in their work. During the year 1947-48, 8,25,997 animals were protected against the common contagious diseases as detailed below :

Rinderpest	...	1,42,109
Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia	...	2,39,017
Blackquarter	...	4,29,865
Anthrax		17,013
Sheep pox		1,912
Fowl pox		1,821
Fowl Cholera	...	312
Ranikhet	...	3,948
		8,25,997

The number of cases treated on tour in 1947-48 was 1,12,928. Four motor mobile units have been sanctioned to facilitate disease prevention work; two are in operation at present and the other two are expected to be ready shortly.

The future programme is to intensify the work by increasing the number of institutions and Touring Billets so that there will be at least one Veterinary Institution and one Touring Billet with a Stockman Compounder or Livestock Inspector, in each of the 220 taluks of this Province.

U. P.

1. *Control of Contagious Diseases.*—(i) Expansion of the Biological Products Section. This section has been functioning in the Province for the last five years. At present anti Rinderpest and Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia vaccines are manufactured by this section to meet the entire demand of the Province, others are purchased from the I.V.R.I. It is proposed

to expand the activities of the Biological Products Section so as to make the Province self-sufficient in this respect. During 1947-48 3.28 lakh doses of Rinderpest and 4.22 lakh doses of H.S. Vaccines were manufactured by this Section.

(ii) In order to ensure quick and timely supply of vaccine and sera to the field it is proposed to provide cold storage facilities at the District Headquarters Veterinary Hospitals where vaccines and sera will be stored in sufficient quantities to meet the requirements of the district in the event of an outbreak.

(iii) As a cheap agency for mass immunisation of stock efforts are being made to step up the training of stockmen. At present 160 candidates are being trained each year and it is proposed to increase the number to 240 from April next.

(iv) For more effective and expeditious control of contagious diseases and to reach the veterinary aid to the remotest part of the country it is proposed to establish a mobile veterinary unit for each district of the Province, one such unit is already in the process of formation at Lucknow.

(v) To effect compulsory vaccination, segregation, disinfection, etc., in the event of outbreaks of contagious diseases an Animal Contagious Diseases and Pests Bill is under the consideration of the Legislature.

(vi) For checking the Foot and Mouth disease it is proposed to construct foot baths in the villages under development blocks. These foot baths will be constructed on 550 per cent. Government subsidy. About 800 foot baths are to be constructed during 1949-50.

There are 206 Veterinary Hospitals in the Province. The number of in and out door patients treated in these institutions was 8,22,138 during 1947-48 and medicines were supplied to 1,02,585 cases not brought to the hospital. The total number of animals inoculated against various diseases during the year was 5,94,922.

2. *Control of Parasitic Diseases*.—(i) A survey of helminthic disease in the province is being conducted at Lucknow University.

(ii) A scheme for the control of Ixodid tick disease in Almora district is in operation for the last one year. Survey of affected areas, disinfection and destruction of intermediary hosts are in progress.

(iii) Special Disease Investigation Staff is engaged for the investigation and control of parasitic problems.

(iv) It is proposed to maintain cattle dips for regular drenching of stock with suitable vermicides in development blocks especially in low lying areas.

3. *Malnutrition*.—(i) With a view to study the nutritive value of cattle feed and fodder available in different parts of the province and to evolve economically balanced rations for those areas a cattle feeding research scheme has been in operation at Bharai in Jhansi district for the last several years.

(ii) Cultivation of fodder crops especially leguminous crops which not only provide most nutritious fodder but also increase the soil fertility is being encouraged. Cultivated fodder is the secret of successful cattle husbandry and cheap milk production. Every effort is being made to popularise the same on the mixed farming system.

Orissa

The Provincial Government have already taken up schemes for the introduction of balanced rations and improvement of pastures. Legislation to prevent and control contagious diseases is now before the Provincial Legislature.

Assam

Vaccine and inoculation against contagious and infectious diseases is undertaken. There are forty-one veterinary dispensaries and four veterinary hospitals operating with 46 veterinary Assistants and 130 Veterinary Field Assistants. One diagnostic laboratory is also functioning in the Province of Assam. In this laboratory there are two Veterinary Investigation Officers one for livestock and one for poultry diseases. There is also one veterinary college for training adequate number of qualified veterinary graduates. One Goat tissue vaccine Section has also been started to maintain cattle health.

IMPROVEMENT OF CATTLE BREED ON REGIONAL BASIS

*351. **Shri Moturi Satyanarayana**: Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any scheme for improving the cattle-breed on a regional basis taking into consideration—

Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

- (i) climate; and
- (ii) fodder facilities;
- (b) whether any work has so far been done in this direction; and
- (c) if so, with what results?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) to (c). The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to starred question No. 602 by Shri Upendranath Barman on the 23rd February, 1949.

CATTLE CENSUS

†*52. **Shri Moturi Satyanarayana:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for taking the cattle census in India; and

(b) if so, when the work is expected to start?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The Government of India propose to carry out the livestock census as part of the Agricultural Census to be held in 1951.

(b) The detailed plans for the Agricultural Census are being worked out. A definite date has not yet been fixed. It is expected that the actual work of enumeration might start in March 1951 or thereabout.

STEPS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF FODDER

†*53. **Shri Moturi Satyanarayana:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken or propose to take for increasing the fodder supply in various areas;

(b) whether any fodder farming has been undertaken in areas adjacent to big cities to utilise the sewage as manure;

(c) if so, with what results; and

(d) whether any survey has been undertaken to investigate the possibilities of fully utilising sewage for fodderfarming in areas where it is available?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) to (d). A statement giving the information asked for by the honourable member is laid on the table of the House. It will be observed therefrom that Provincial and State Governments are taking steps to increase the production of fodder so far as possible.

Sewage water is also utilised for the purpose.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Province or State	Steps taken or proposed for increasing fodder supply	Fodder cultivation on sewage manure and results, if any	Possibilities of fodder cultivation from sewage
1	2	3	4	5
* 1	Madras	(i) Trial of different kinds of grasses. (ii) Growing of fodder trees on 'forembok' and Government waste lands. (iii) Rotational grazing in Panchayats and reserved forests.	Sewage fodder farms are already functioning in Madras, Mathurai and Ootacamund where alone underground sewage system exists.	A special investigation on fodder scarcity in the Province is being conducted by two Officers on Special Duty.

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

	3	4	5
	“(i) Demonstration centres for growing perennial grasses. (v) Establishment of a (Pasture) Research Station at Coimbatore. (vi) Constitution of a Milk Board to perform the duties of a Provincial fodder and grazing committee and land utilisation Board. (vii) Supply of fodder to Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union.	Guinea grass is being raised on the 150 acre farm at Ma-thurai and 8 to 10 cuttings are taken every year.	
2 Bombay*			
3 West Bengal	(i) Subsidised distribution of fodder seeds. (ii) Setting up seed-multiplication farms. (iii) Evolving suitable fodder crops by research.	No.	Utilisation of Calcutta Corporation Sewage Water is under consideration.
4 Assam	A scheme for Fodder Development in Assam has been sanctioned during the year 1948-49 with a view to produce hay from the available aquatic resources and to improve the existing grazing areas of this Province.	Scheme provides centres for production of hay and supplies will be made from these centres. The question of utilising the sewage manure will be taken up later, if possible.	
5 Bihar	Demonstration and Propaganda for increasing fodder supply is being carried on.	N/A.	N/A.
6 Orissa*			
7 U.P.	(i) Improved varieties of grasses and vines are being grown on mechanised farms. (ii) Many grasses imported from Australia are being tried. (iii) Import of many British and African grasses is contemplated. (iv) Nutritive value of fodder grasses and other cultivated feeders is published.	No. Some work in this connection is however being done at the Agricultural Institute, Allahabad.	No. Sewage is chiefly used for vegetable farming in the Province.
8 C.P. and Berar*			
9 East Punjab.	(i) Introduction of high yielding fodders, e.g., berseem in place of 'Senji' a rabi crop which yielded only 1/3rd of fodder as compared with berseem. (ii) Introduction of improved method of cultivation	Sewage manure is already being utilised as far as available. Composting of town refuse has been undertaken under a G. M. F. Scheme which is likely to be extended.	No.

1	2	3	4	5
	(iii) Improvement of the quality and quantity of the hill grasses is under consideration.			
10 Coorg	(i) A Grow More Fodder Scheme has been launched from 15.3.48. (ii) Advisory Propaganda by specialist staff regarding suitability of different fodders and their cultivation, etc. (iii) Subsidised supply of grass seeds slips, etc., to cultivators. (iv) Establishment of a Demonstration Fodder Farm.	A Sewage fodder farm near Mercara Town has been set up for demonstration purposes and 10 acres are under perennial fodder, i.e., Guinea and Napier grass.	No.	
11 Ajmer-Merwara.	Well sinking scheme launched under Grow More Food Scheme expected to augment supply of fodder also.	No Sewage system; hence does not arise.	Will be considered when proposed drainage scheme for Ajmer is completed.	
12 Delhi	Arranging distribution of fodder seeds.	Private cultivators already utilising Delhi and New Delhi sewage.	No.	
13 Himachal Pradesh.	The Local Administration will take steps to increase fodder supply in whatever way possible as soon as their Agriculture Department is properly organised and staffed.	No.	Not as yet.	
14 Madhya Bharat.	Major portion falls in Malwa Plateau where there are long fodder areas available. However in certain districts like Bhind and Morena which are deficit in fodder supply arrangements are being made for increasing the supply of fodder.	There is one Sewage Farm run by the Gwalior Dairy Ltd., who are utilising the city sewage and growing fodder for their own cattle and as also supplying for the city. Excellent results have been obtained. Heavy output of fodder can be obtained under this system combined with irrigation.	There is scope for establishing more Sewage Farms in Madhya Bharat; this has been included in one of the items of the contemplated survey.	
15 Surashtra*				
16 Rajasthan	The union is already surplus	No information.	No information.	
17 Matya Union*				
18 Patiala and East Punjab States Union.	Fodder supply in the Union is sufficient, improved fodder crops have been introduced and the Govt. assist in arranging supply of seeds.	Whatever Sewage is available is already being utilised by private cultivators for fodder and vegetable production.	A casual survey has shown that available sewage is already being utilised fully.	

*Information not received.

1	2	3	4	5
19	Baroda	(i) Utilising shallow wells for fodder cultivation. (ii) Utilising waters of Narmda and Dharwar rivers by means of pumping sets. (iii) Distribution of fodder seeds to needy cultivators.	The limited sewage available round Baroda is already being utilized for raising food crops by private owners. They are being encouraged to test in Napier grass, etc.,	No information.
20	Mysore	Training a highly qualified Officer in advanced Agronomy in U.S.A. and Russia for pasture improvement and management. Sore is also being utilized by private farms to raise	Sunkal Sewage Farm, Bangalore City, and Municipal Sewage Farm, Mysore, are cultivating Rhodes grass. Sewage of Bangalore Civil Station and of Mysore is also being utilized by private farms to raise Rhodes grass. The results are encouraging as the farms are remunerative.	Sewage can be utilized if there is an effective system of underground drainage, which is not the case with most of the municipalities in the State. They will be advised to utilize sewage when they have underground drainage systems.
21	Hyderabad*			
22	Cochin	(i) Distribution of fodder cuttings at nominal rates. (ii) Propagating cultivation of leguminous fodder, crops, e.g., cow pea.	No sewage manure available.	Does not arise.
23	Travancore*			
24	Kolhapur	Fodder supply in the State is sufficient and as such no steps have been taken.		
25	Bhopal	The State is surplus in fodder.	Enough sewage manure is not available to enable fodder farming being undertaken.	No information.
26	Jodhpur	(i) Formation of fodder reserves in villages on experimental basis (ii) Experimental cultivation of fodder grasses on dry farming, etc. (iii) Reclamation of unproductive areas infested with shrubs, etc. (iv) Encouraging co-operative farming on improved method and cutting (v) Starting Fodder collection, purchase and sale Co-operative Societies.	Sewage Farm, Jodhpur, was set up about 8 years ago with an area of 103 acres: the available sewage manure is however enough for 15 acres only on which Lucerne, Rhodes and Napier grasses are being raised.	Nil. No survey has been undertaken so far.

*Information not received

1	2	3	4	5
27. Jaipur	(*) Introduction of hand chaffcutters to avoid waste of fodder. (**) Distribution of fodder seeds by Government.	Private farmers who were growing vegetables from sewage manure have been directed to grow fodder.	No survey has been undertaken.	
28. Bikaner*				
29. Vindhya Pradesh*				
30. Jammu and Kashmir*				

*Information not received.

EXPENDITURE ON 'GROW MORE FOOD' CAMPAIGN

†*954. **Shri Moturi Satyanarayana:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money spent on the scheme 'grow more food campaign' since its inception;

(b) the amounts spent on the following: (i) for encouraging production of cereals; (ii) for encouraging production of vegetables; (iii) for encouraging production of roots; (iv) publicity charges; (v) establishment; (vi) subsidies; and (vii) experimental farms.

(c) what the expected and the actual returns were; and

(d) whether Government propose to take any steps to improve the scheme?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information are placed on the table of the House.

(c) and (d). The attention of the honourable member is invited to the note on the subject circulated among the honourable members of the House on the 3rd February, 1949. A copy† of the note is placed on the table of the House. The whole question of speeding up food production is under review by Government.

STATEMENT I

Actual expenditure incurred by Government of India on Grow More Food Schemes for the years 1943-48

Name of the Province	Actual expenditure				
	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Assam	3,32,180	4,31,030	6,97,609	7,29,991	5,53,191
2. Bengal	4,87,120	6,01,179	21,82,367	37,75,000	7,98,038
3. Bihar	1,53,152	2,45,156	12,44,372	10,36,636	6,57,112
4. Bombay	2,42,686	15,20,483	27,69,931	33,15,801	43,69,841
6. C. P. and Berar	3,17,407	1,23,823	6,01,268	7,17,549	5,62,007
6. Madras	3,17,400	17,82,545	16,02,740	1,76,37,932	36,37,931

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

† Not printed in the day's debate. A copy placed in the Library of the House.—Ed. of D.

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
7. N. W. F. P.	82,102	5,09,895	6,75,151	2,84,000	..
8. Orissa	1,39,836	7,34,284	13,05,858	18,96,881	2,82,078
9. Punjab	67,390	2,22,818	3,86,889	10,49,000	Information not available.
10. Sind	52,679	59,265	66,383	3,44,000	..
11. U. P.	86,166	8,35,810	15,81,153	21,17,699	19,98,468
12. Baluchistan	3,968	83,803	6,34,291	..	..
13. Coorg	19,321	18,428	74,456	1,55,000	..
14. Indian Circles—					
(a) Ajmer-Merwara	13,741	89,207	1,81,389		
(b) I. C. A. R.	1,81,600	2,85,678	4,16,640		
(c) Delhi	10,629	..	46,382		
(d) Central Veterinary Department	..	..	7,573		
(e) Kashmir	16,800	..	..		
Total	24,28,977	77,34,902	1,44,55,852	3,30,89,379	1,23,58,841
GRAND TOTAL	Re. 7,05,66,651				

STATEMENT II

Province-wise expenditure incurred by the Government of India on some of the following G. M. F. items for the period from 1943-44 to 1947-48

Name of the Province	Production of cereals	Production of vegetables and roots	Pub. licity charges	Establiash-ment	Experi-mental Farms	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Ajmer-Merwara	4,04,115	6,831	..	1,62,575	..	5,73,621
2. Orissa	2,11,908	11,086	..	18,88,929	..	21,11,823
3. Madras	2,96,08,444	34,461	..	6,41,733	..	3,03,04,643
4. Delhi	11,45,565	1,453	..	62,812	..	12,06,840
5. Coorg	3,55,806	4,554	..	21,036	899	3,82,205
6. Bihar	15,93,696	..	..	4,98,139	..	20,91,835
7. C. P. and Berar	15,32,038	..	..	5,02,650	..	20,34,688
8. Assam	5,65,767	1,56,948	..	5,34,684	13,641	12,73,020
9. Bombay	89,33,853	14,405	..	6,82,813	..	96,31,081
10. E. Punjab*	68,10,108	..	..	13,500	..	68,22,608
11. W. Bengal*	73,22,595	51,560	..	13,16,300	..	86,00,500
12. U. P.*	91,56,560	3,17,600	..	6,17,875	..	1,02,02,035
Total	6,76,50,365	6,20,908	..	71,42,084	14,540	7,54,27,897

NOTE.—The above expenditure is in the form of grants or subsidies to the Provinces for the execution of the above mentioned schemes.

* The amounts in respect of these provinces represent the amounts as sanctioned by the Government of India. Information about the actual expenditure on the items mentioned above is not available.

AID TO POULTRY AND DAIRY FARMS

†*955, **Shri S. Nagappa:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poultry and dairy farms throughout the country province-wise;

(b) whether Government are giving them any aid; and

(c) if so, what kind of aid?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) to (c). A statement giving the necessary information is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

Name of Province	No. of Dairy Farms	No. of Poultry Farms	Whether Govt. is giving them any aid	Kind of aid given
1	2	3	4	5
1. Madras	12	20		The policy of the Government in respect of aid to dairy farms is under consideration of the Provincial Government. Three Poultry Farms are receiving subsidies from the Provincial Government. Four are entirely run by the Government.
2. Bombay	Information not available	Yes		Financial assistance in the form of a loan up to Rs. 50,000 at 4% is given to deserving dairy farms by the Provincial Government. Direct technical help and advice is rendered to dairy-men in general working of their dairy concern and also in selection of site, purchase of animals, breeding and feeding of animals. 300 pure bred cocks are distributed free of costs, at a cost of Rs. 2,200 every year. 15 housing premises each of Rs. 150 and 20 pedigree egg and fowl premises each of Rs. 100 are awarded every year to deserving poultry keepers as encouragement. Loans up to a maximum of Rs. 500 are given to approved students who have satisfactorily completed the poultry training course.

* Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

1	2	3	4	5
				Technical advice is given as regards poultry breeding housing ~~management~~ , diseases. Opening of Farms is extended to rural areas through the Poultry Development Officer.
3. West Bengal	9	3	Yes.	Technical assistance and advice are made available to these institutions through a special officer for dairy development. They are also helped in procuring their requirements of controlled commodities such as steel, cement, etc.
4. United Provinces	53	30	Yes	Loans and subsidies are granted to deserving private dairy farms by the Provincial Governments. The poultry breeders are given assistance in shape of stock-birds and hatching eggs at concessional rates, free technical advice, free literature, practical training, special concession at the poultry shows and marketing facilities.
5. East Punjab				The number of private poultry and dairy farms is not available. The Government Livestock Farm, Hissar, has a Dairy Section. There is one Government Poultry Farm with three incubations.
6. Bihar	12	12	Yes.	The Provincial Government have sanctioned non-recurring grants amounting to Rs. 1,25,000 to a private dairy farm for equipments, buildings, etc., and a recurring grant of Rs. 10,000 per annum for training Section to be started by the Bihar Provincial Goshala and Pinjrapole Federation. Government also propose to acquire 100 acres of land and hand over the same to the Bihar Provincial Goshala and Pinjrapole Federation. Five Dairy and eight Poultry Farms are run entirely by the Government.
7. Orissa	7	2		Six dairy farms and both the poultry farms are run by the Provincial Government. No aid is given to the private dairy farm.

1	2	3	4	5
[S. C. P. and Berar	48	25	Yes.	Necessary assistance in respect of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry matters is given to all Co-operative farms. Loans are granted to them for the purchase of cattle and establishment of cattle food depots for supply of fodder and concentrates to the members at cheap rates.
9. Delhi	58 (52 Dairies and 6 Dairy Farms)	2	Yes.	Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Aid are also given to private dairies when sought.
10. Ajmer-Merwara	Nil (There are several poultry farms but only six are important.)	6		One Poultry and one Dairy Farm are run by the Local Government. A loan of Rs. 16,000 has been given to one refugee Dairy Farm. Technical advice and facilities for vaccination are given free of charge. At the time of epidemic all medicines are also provided by Government without charge.
11. Coorg	3	5	Yes.	Local Government help private breeders in controlling diseases and give advice in poultry matters. Eggs suitable for hatching and young stock produced on the Government farm are supplied to bona fide poultry breeders and co-operative poultry breeding societies at concessional rates.
				All the five poultry farms and one dairy farm are run entirely by the local Government.
				No financial aid is given to private dairy farms

RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL PESTS AND PLANT DISEASES

*956. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of India have made any arrangement for research work in agricultural pests and plant diseases and if so, at which places and with what results?

The Honourable Shri Jaisimdas Doulatram: The Government of India have arrangements for research work on agricultural insect pests and diseases at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Research is also carried out at various institutions under schemes financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Commodity Committee of Jute, Cotton, Sugarcane, Lac, Tobacco, Coconut and Oilseeds. A note on the results of research work carried out so far on different insect pests and plant diseases is placed on the table of the House.

A note on the results of research work carried out on insect pests and plant diseases under different Central organisations

The need for research on pests and diseases of crops was appreciated by the Government of India as early as 1905 when they appointed an Entomologist and a Mycologist in the Indian (then Imperial) Department of Agriculture. In 1929, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was established for promoting, conducting and financing Agricultural Research and for co-ordinating research on an all-India basis. Furthermore several Commodity Committees have been set up during the past 20 years for conducting research on pests and diseases along with other agricultural aspects of Cotton, Sugarcane, I.M.C. Coconut, Oil Seeds, Tobacco, Jute, etc. Recently a Central Rice Research Institute has been established. Some of the schemes now financed by the various Committees were started by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The results of research work carried out under different organisations are briefly described below :

I. INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

(a) *Insect Pests :*

- (i) *Locusts*.—Following the recommendations of the Board of Agriculture in 1929 the Council organised a Locust Section and later in 1939 the entire organisation was taken over by the Government of India under its direct control. The investigations led to detailed information on the reproduction, migration and seasonal activities of the pest as well as the mechanical, biological and insecticidal control measures. A monograph in this respect has been published by the Council giving full details.
- (ii) *San Jose Scale and Woolly Aphis in Kashmir*.—It was observed that the grown up trees of apricots, cherry and almonds were usually free from infestation of San Jose Scale, whereas their seedlings were quite susceptible to its attack. Apples were severely infested and the best control was effected through spraying with diesel oil emulsion during winter.
- (iii) *Insect Pests of stored cereals in Punjab*.—Some investigations were carried out in the Punjab before the partition. Of the various kinds of powdered leaves, Neem was found to be the best preservative.
- (iv) *Insect Pests of pulses and jowar*.—The scheme terminated in 1947 and revealed that insect infestation varies with the initial moisture contents in the grain and the surrounding humidity. As a preventive measure the jowar stem borer may be much reduced by the destruction of stubbles and the grasshopper control effected by sweeping the young stages of the pest in large field bags.
- (v) *Pests of Rice*.—The Gundhi pest in U. P. and Gangai pest in C. P. were investigated and some resistant varieties evolved.
- (vi) *Hispa and Stem Borer of Rice*.—The investigations are in progress in West Bengal and the life history of the pests has been studied.
- (vii) *Trials with D.D.T. and allied insecticides*.—Comparative trials with D.D.T., gammexane and other insecticides are carried out against agricultural pests, in Madras, U. P. and Bombay and at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. So far the experiments in Bombay have yielded important results and further trials are in progress during the extension period of the scheme.
- (viii) *Fruit Research Scheme, Mysore*.—The scheme started in 1938 and information about the biology of Woolly aphis has been collected.
- (ix) *Insect pests of fruits in plains of U. P.*—The scheme was initiated in 1946. Some investigations on the biology of gall makers, citrus leaf miner, fruit sucking moths and Anar butterfly have been made and the Central measures are under trial.
- (x) *Hill Fruit Research in U. P.*—The scheme started in 1934. Of the entomological problems Woolly aphis, apple root and stem borer, and fruit eating beetle have been studied and their control measures devised. Investigations on the biology of some parasites and predators are also in progress.
- (xi) *Horticultural schemes in Madras, Bihar, Assam, Hyderabad, C. P. and Berar*.—The Bihar scheme started in 1934, Assam in 1938, Hyderabad in 1941 and C. P. in 1944. Investigations on some important pests including white ants are in hand and some control measures have been evolved.
- (xii) *Research on citrus in Coorg and Bihar*.—The scheme is in progress since 1945 and work on the incidence of pests of citrus is completed.
- (xiii) *Potato Research scheme in Bihar*.—The potato storage scheme was started in Bihar during 1943. Bionomics and control of the potato tuber moth have been studied.

(b) *Plant Diseases :*

- (i) *Survey of the citrus dieback diseases in Peninsular India, Bombay, Mysore, Hyderabad and C. P. and Berar.*—The scheme was under operation from 1943-46 during which period the conditions favouring these diseases and the extent of damage were studied.
- (ii) *Discoms of pan in C. P.*—Work was in progress upto 1945. Suitable control measures were evolved.
- (iii) *Scheme for the production and multiplication of partially disease free seed potatoes at Karnal.*—In progress from 1944 to 1947. It was aimed to produce partially disease free seed potatoes by thorough roguing of the crop and distribute the same to the cultivators. The yield of potatoes per acre from such seed has been considerably higher than ordinary commercial seed.
- (iv) *Fruit Research Scheme, Mysore.*—In progress since 1938. Diseases of fruits specially apples, pears, avocado, papayae, etc., are under investigation. Control of collar-rot is completed and Canker and rosettee diseases are under study.
- (v) *Hill fruit Research Scheme.*—Investigations are in progress since 1934 and important diseases like collar-rot, stem brown, powdery mildew, steam black, etc. have been studied and control measures determined.
- (vi) *Horticulture Schemes in Madras, Jilkan, Assam, Hyderabad, C. P. and Berar.*—The scheme started in 1934 in Bihar, 1935 in Madras and 1941 in Hyderabad and work on disease resistance of sweet oranges and lime trees in Madras, and on mangoes in Bihar was undertaken. Different fungicides were tried against powdery mildew and gummosis and experiments to control malformation of mango inflorescence are in progress.
- (vii) *Orange Research Scheme, Coorg.*—Leaf and fruit fall diseases are investigated and proper spray schedules, prepared and the diseases are under control.
- (viii) *Research Schemes on potatoes at Simla and New Delhi.*—The scheme at Simla started in 1935 and breeding of potato varieties resistant to late blight as well as virus diseases undertaken. Some hybrids have been found to be immune to late blight.

Seed potato certification scheme at Indian Agricultural Research Institute was started in 1942. Survey of virus diseases of potato crop in Northern India was undertaken and pockets of low disease incidence determined for the multiplication of disease-free potato seed. Virus free nucleus seed potatoes of Darjeeling Red Round have been evolved and are being multiplied for certification purposes.

- (ix) *Rust Research Scheme, Agra.*—Work is in progress since 1930 to determine over-summering of rusts of wheat and barley under Indian conditions. The sources of annual epidemics have been traced and various physiological races of different rusts investigated. Varieties of wheat resistant to these races have been isolated.
- (x) *Rice Research Scheme, Coimbatore, Madras.*—Blast disease and foot-rot of paddy are under study in Madras. Several resistant varieties have been discovered. Foot-rot of rice has been controlled by seed treatment with an organic mercury fungicide which was tested for about 1,000 acres during 1946-47.
- (xi) *Grain Wilt Scheme Ferozepore, E. Punjab.*—Considerable work has been done and control through soil amendment discovered.
- (xii) *Coriander Wilt Scheme, Guwahati, Madhyabharat.*—The work is in progress for the past three years, and results are awaited.
- (xiii) *Virus Research Scheme, Poona.*—Investigations on virus diseases of various crops are in hand. The vector of the cardamom virus has been discovered and an effective method for the control of bhindi mosaic determined.
- (xiv) *Rust Research Laboratory, Mahabaleshwar, Bombay.*—Maintained for investigating black rust of wheat in Central, Peninsular and Western India. Quite a number of varieties of wheat bred in Bombay, C. P. and Hyderabad have been tested for their relative resistance and races of black rust noted.
- (xv) *Central Potato Research Institute.*—This Institute is in the process of formation with headquarters at Patna. A nucleus staff is working at Simla for the past 14 years. Early and late blights and virus diseases of potatoes form the main lines of study.

II. INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI

(a) *Entomology.*—The Division of Entomology is mainly concerned with fundamental research of All-India importance. The co-ordinated schemes on sugarcane pests are supervised by this Institute and millions of Trichogramma parasites are produced annually and supplied to sugarcane growers.

The Institute maintains the best insect collection in the East which helps in the correct identification of insects. It conducts special investigations on life histories and bionomics of important pests together with their geographical and seasonal distribution, ecology, causes

of epiphytemics and above all, their natural enemies. Recently investigations on insect toxicology have also been initiated. Work has been done on the control of serious pests of crops and stored grains, including fumigation and bionomics of pests, of sugarcane, tobacco, vegetables, fruit trees and bulletins published.

(b) *Pathology*.—The causal organisms of several diseases have been carefully identified, their life histories studied and control measures, wherever possible, determined. Moreover, the Institute maintains a large Herbarium, and Indian Type culture collection of fungi and these collections are useful in studying the etiology of the diseases. The important diseases that have been studied and for which control measures have been evolved include loose smut and flag smut of wheat, covered and loose smuts of oats, red-rot and smut of sugarcane, pigeon pea wilt, gram-wilt and certain virus diseases of tomato.

Some varieties of potatoes resistant to late blight disease have been evolved. Work on production of linseed varieties resistant to different physiologic forms of linseed rust is in progress.

The other problems under investigation are :—Wilt of linseed, lentils, etc.; Rusts of various crops; Bunt of wheat; Virus diseases of vegetables and saltbump.

III. INDIAN OIL SEEDS COMMITTEE

(A) *Insect Pests* :

- (i) *Pests of groundnut in Madras*.—The scheme was in force from 1943 to 1947 and studies on Sural (*Stompteryx nerteria*) were completed and light traps and dusting with five per cent. D.D.T. are found very effective in controlling the pest.
- (ii) *Pests of castor and other oil seeds in Hyderabad*.—The scheme continued from 1943 to 1947 but the final report is awaited.
- (iii) *Pests of linseed in C. P. and Berar*.—The scheme functioned from 1943-47. The final report of the work already done and the programme of work during the extension period for which proposals have been received, yet to be considered.
- (iv) *Pests on Til and other oil seed crops in U. P.*—The scheme is in progress since 1943. Major pests of til have been studied.
- (v) *Pests of Safflower in Bombay*.—The scheme is in progress since 1945. Bionomics of the leaf eating caterpillar (*Perigea capensis*) and aphids were worked out and control measures studied. Preliminary information on the relationship of the incidence of attack and the relative yield was collected.

(B) *Plant Diseases* :

Scheme for research on diseases of groundnuts.—It has been established that Tikka leaf-spot disease can be easily controlled by the application of common fungicides such as Bordeaux mixture, sulphur, and colloidal copper, etc. Bordeaux mixture (2 per cent.) however, has proved to be the most effective fungicide.

IV. INDIAN CENTRAL SUGARCANE COMMITTEE

(A) *Insect Pests* :

- (a) *Scheme on the Biological control of sugarcane borer and on other pests of sugarcane*.—A coordinated scheme is running in Bihar, U. P., Madras, Bombay and the Punjab. The efficacy of *Trichogramma minutum* in the control of the stem borer and economics of the biological control have been worked out. The incidence of attack of other pests of sugarcane in relation to the micro-climatic factors is under investigation.

(B) *Plant Diseases* :

- (i) *Sugarcane Research Station, Pusa, Bihar*.—This station is doing intensive work on red-rot and wilt of a sugarcane. Work on smut is also in progress. Several varieties of sugarcane resistant to red-rot have been developed and are under cultivation in the province.
- (ii) *Sugarcane Research Station, Shahjehanpur, U. P.*—Work on sugarcane diseases, mainly the red-rot, is in progress. Several resistant varieties have been evolved and are under distribution.
- (iii) *Sugarcane Diseases Scheme, Indian Agricultural Research Institute*.—Work on mosaic disease, red-rot and smut of sugarcane has been in progress since 1935. Several varieties of sugarcane resistant to red-rot and smut have been evolved.

V. INDIAN CENTRAL JUTE COMMITTEE

Jute Research Institute, Hooghly.—This Institute was established several years ago at Dacca and investigations on the more important diseases of Jute undertaken. The stemrot of jute has been successfully controlled.

VI. INDIAN CENTRAL COCONUT COMMITTEE

Cocunut Research Laboratory, Quilon, Travancore.—Work on a wilt, hadromycooses and leaf-spot diseases of coconut are under investigation.

VII. INDIAN COFFEE BOARD

Coffee Research Station, Balehonnur, Mysore.—Investigations on leaf rust and Black rot of coffee are being conducted at this station. For controlling rusts, different fungicidal sprays have been developed and are under large scale trial. Varieties of coffee resistant to leaf rust are also under investigation.

VIII. CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CUTTACK

The Institute was started 2 years ago. With a view to finding control measures, the blast, leaf spot and blight diseases of rice crop and various seedling diseases, are under investigation.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether any researches have been made regarding wheat rust and if so, where and with what result?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The experiment is being carried on at Agra under Dr. Mehta and experiments are also being made in a number of provinces such as Bombay, Madras, the Simla Hills and some other places.

Shri Raj Bahadur: How long has it been under research and what is the result?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It has been under research for a number of years. With regard to India the difficulty is that there are three different varieties or types of rust which attack wheat. The number actually goes into hundreds but there are three main varieties and because Indian wheat is subject to attack by all these three varieties, therefore a seed which is resistant to all the three varieties has to be discovered and hence the time taken in evolving such a seed.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What has been the the total cost of the research so far?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am sorry I cannot answer the question straightaway but I can later supply the information to the honourable member, if he desires.

CONTROL OF LOCUST AND *Phadka*

*957. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government are aware that every year huge loss of the standing crops is caused by locust and *Phadka* in different parts of the country and if so, what has been done so far or is being done to counteract this?

(b) Are Government aware that locust and *Phadka* have caused immense loss by destruction of the standing crops in the Province of Ajmer-Merwara continuously in the last 3 years?

(c) If so, what steps were taken by the Provincial Government or the Government of India to control the evil and with what results?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) It is not a fact that any appreciable damage is done by locust to standing crops in different parts of the country every year. During the last cycle of 1940-46 the loss was

negligible, as a co-ordinated control scheme was successfully carried out, with the co-operation of the Provinces and States likely to be affected by the locust invasion.

As a result of the study made under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research on the subject of locust from 1931-39, a skeleton locust warning organisation was established by the Government of India to keep a watch on locust outbreaks. This organisation was substantially strengthened in 1942 after the outbreak of the locust cycle of 1940-46. It has field staff and scouts posted at strategic points in all the areas where locust is likely to breed.

With the decline of locust activities in 1947, the co-ordinated locust control scheme was terminated but the Warning Organisation is being continued in order to observe occasional appearance of locust and its breeding activity, and to issue warning to the Provinces and States likely to be affected thereby. This warning staff is posted in Rajputana and the adjoining desert areas at suitable places and they constantly move about for purposes of observation. The Locust Warning Organisation is also equipped to destroy the pest, should it appear in such numbers as to give rise to incipient swarms. Mainly this pest originates outside the borders of India, namely, in Pakistan, Iran, Arabia, and countries further west up to East Africa. The Government of India, therefore, keep in touch also with the anti-locust centre in London which is in charge of the work in East Africa, Sudan, etc.

(b) and (c). Some damage was caused in Ajmer-Merwara by the locust during the last three years.

Phadka was first reported in Ajmer in 1946. Preliminary trials of control methods were made in 1947 and the Government of India sanctioned grants amounting to Rs. 8,700 during the year 1947-48 and Rs. 22,204 during the year 1948-49. Effective measures were applied with the available stock of insecticides and dusting machines over an area of about 3,000 *bighas* in 60 villages in 1948 and the crops were completely saved in this tract. The scheme is worked by the Local Administration and technical guidance is provided by the Government of India. But the area infected was very much larger and the total loss was estimated at 27 lakhs. The major difficulties in securing greater success were the lack of funds for purchasing insecticides and dusting machines, booking and transport difficulties and insufficient field staffs. For the year 1949-50 the Government of India have under consideration a proposal for the extension of the scheme at a cost of Rs. 93,000 to meet some of these difficulties.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Which are the other pests or diseases, besides locust and *phadka*, responsible for the large scale destruction of crops in this country? Are there any other pests?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulstram: There are hundreds of pests which attack our crops.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava: Do Government consider the sum of Rs. 93,000 sufficient to meet the menace during 1949-50?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulstram: We hope it will be sufficient; if not we shall approach the Finance Ministry and get more funds.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What is the annual loss of crops on account of these pests in the country?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulstram: I think it is somewhere round about thirty lakh tons.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: In view of the fact that the locust menace was fought in the past with the help of the Government of Iran may I know if the

Government of Pakistan and the Government of Iran are still co-operating with us in this matter?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: All the Governments on that side are co-operating and recently we had a conference at which representatives from India, Iran and the countries on the west were represented.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: Are you maintaining any permanent staff to fight this menace?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: We are not maintaining any staff in the other countries.

Shri H. V. Kamath: How much is the food deficit?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: Ten per cent. of the total production.

Shri H. V. Kamath: How many million tons is it?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: It may be round about thirty-five lakh tons.

Shri H. V. Kamath: While the food deficit is thirty-five lakh tons the loss due to pests is thirty lakh tons!

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: It is not only in India. In most of the countries there is a variety of these crop pests just as there is a variety of diseases in respect of human beings. And just as human beings also die crops also are destroyed all over the world by these pests. This is a common malady to crops all over the world.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What kind of insect is this *phodda*? Is it the locust?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: It is a small winged locust.

MANUFACTURE OF MANURES AND CHEMICAL FERTILISERS

*958. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state how many factories exist in India for the manufacture of manures and chemical fertilisers on modern lines and whether such factories are Government-owned or private?

(b) What is the total annual output of such factories and what kinds of manures or fertilisers are being manufactured there and what quantity of each?

(c) Have Government prepared any plan for the increased output of manures and chemical fertilisers and if so, at what stage or stages are these schemes and when are they going to be implemented?

(d) What is the total quantity of chemical fertilisers and manures of various kinds imported into India from abroad and what has been done or is being done to make India self-sufficient in such manures and fertilisers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Twelve, none of which is State-owned.

(b) 56,800 tons; 33,000 tons of Ammonium Sulphate and 21,300 tons of Superphosphate in 1948.

(c) and (d). One State-owned factory for the manufacture of Ammonium sulphate is under erection at Sindri. The capacity of this factory will be 3,50,000 tons per annum and it is expected to go into production by the end of 1950. Additional capacity for the production of superphosphate is also being encouraged to be set up by private enterprise. Similar plans are also under preparation by private enterprise for the installation of additional capacity for the manufacture of ammonium sulphate. As regards imports, a statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

Total quantities of Chemical fertilisers imported from abroad during 1943-44 to 1947-48 and those likely to be imported during 1948-49.

Name of the fertiliser	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	Total	1948-49 (likely to be imported)
Sulphate of Ammonia	22,000	70,000	1,57,000	1,46,000	1,18,000	5,13,000	1,64,500
Ammonium Phosphate		14,000	6,634	10,150	7,254	38,038	4,464
Diammonium Phosphate					2,000	2,000	2,000
Ammonium Nitrate		..	200	6,035	7,950	14,185	7,607
Sodium Nitrate		..		..	21,367	21,357	28,500
Total	22,000	84,000	1,63,834	1,62,185	1,56,561	5,88,580	2,03,071

Shri B. K. Sidhva: May I know whether some quantity will be available at the end of this year? Now he says 'by the end of 1950'. In the last session he said by the end of 1951 some quantity will be available after the Sindri factory is erected.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I said 1950, not 1951.

Prof. N. G. Banga: What is the supply position in regard to the import of fertilisers from abroad? Has it improved?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have laid a full statement on the table with regard to the imports. In 1947-48 we imported 1,56,561 tons and 1948-49 2,03,071 tons are expected to be imported.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava: What is the total price of these imports?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Rs. 5½ crores.

Seth Govind Das: Have Government received some representations that this fertiliser is harmful to the land in the long run and have the Government consulted experts in this respect?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: This matter has been under investigation for some time. With regard to the use of ammonium nitrate the reports have been of a conflicting nature. But as far as reports regarding ammonium sulphate are concerned they are fairly satisfactory.

POSTAL ENQUIRY COMMITTEE ON SPLITTING UP OF POSTAL CIRCLES

*959. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communication be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Postal Enquiry Committee (1934-85) proposed the splitting up of Postal Circles into minor ones on economical grounds as also on the grounds of efficiency and whether it was as a result of that Committee's recommendation that Assam has since been separated from the Bengal Circle and Orissa from the Bihar Circle?

(b) Had the said Enquiry Committee recommended the splitting up of Nagpur Circle into two minor circles with Nagpur and Ajmer as Headquarters?

(c) Has this recommendation been accepted and acted upon by Government and if not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) The Postal Enquiry Committee proposed splitting up of some of the Postal Circles into minor ones in 1935 but the recommendations were not accepted by Government. In 1946 an independent Circle was formed in Assam and Orissa was separated from Bihar but only in respect of Postal services and not Telegraphs and Telephones. These Circles were formed not as a result of the recommendations made by the Postal Enquiry Committee (1934-35) but in view of subsequent developments and on administrative grounds.

(b) Yes.

(c) The question of reorganisation of the Circle charges which will include the separation of Ajmer from the Central (Nagpur) Circle is under consideration.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether in the year 1935 the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs stated that the department for administrative purposes should be split up into many circles; if that is so, do Government consider the question of splitting up C. P. into two circles?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: I will look into the report to which the honourable member has referred.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR OBTAINING STEEL FROM BELGIUM AND OTHER COUNTRIES

*960. **Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether the negotiations for obtaining a larger quantity of Steel from Belgium have concluded successfully?

(b) If so, what is the total quantity imported from Belgium during the period from 1st September, 1948 up till now?

(c) What further efforts are being made in order to procure more steel from Countries other than the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Belgium?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An order for 1,36,000 tons of Belgian steel has been placed and shipments are expected to commence very shortly.

(c) The principal countries that export steel are the U.S.A., the U.K. and Belgium. We have, however, succeeded in getting a firm offer from France of 30,000 tons which we expect to finalize in the next few days. We are also negotiating with some other countries, e.g., Italy, Japan, Sweden, Germany and Austria for supply of steel and hope to get at least some quantity at reasonable prices.

Seth Govind Das: Is there any difference in the quality of the steel which we receive from abroad and is there any difference in the prices of the same quality?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: So far as prices are concerned, of course the differences are considerable. So far as qualities of the same varieties are concerned there is not much difference.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: May we know the price per ton of steel being imported from Belgium?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The Belgian price of steel varies from Rs. 580 to 750 per ton depending on the varieties.

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government keeping one fact in view that the order should be placed only in those countries from where we can get cheapest steel of the same quality?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is obvious.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Does not the U.S.S.R. export any steel?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We have not been able to get anything from the U.S.S.R.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: Is it a fact that the 30,000 tons of steel which the Government have arranged from France has been arranged on some barter system, and if so for the exchange of what material?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is under negotiation. Some of the countries want coal, some pig-iron, and we are trying to settle it to the best advantage of India.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Have Government at any time attempted negotiations with the U.S.S.R. for the purchase of steel?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Attempts have been made.

Shri H. V. Kamath: With what result?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know what is the price of manufactured steel in India?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The Indian price varies from Rs. 287 to Rs. 320.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: In view of this great disparity in rate between Indian steel and foreign steel, may I know whether Government intends to increase our price so as to get the benefit to the State?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I am trying to work out an equalization fund so that the steel that we import will be available to the consumers at reasonable prices.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: Is it a fact that a private party had arranged a bargain for steel with France and that the Department of Industry and Supply rejected that bargain because it was dealt with directly and not through the Department?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It is open to private parties also to import steel. If the honourable member has any information like that the best thing for him is to let me know.

Shri H. V. Kamath: From the point of view of amount of steel production, which country in the world comes first?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The U.S.A.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF RAILWAY GRAIN SHOP ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*961. **Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether, as a result of the findings of the Railway Grain Shop Enquiry Committee, any change in the system has been effected and if so, whether it has resulted in any economy or saving?

(b) If there has been any saving or economy, what is the total amount of such annual saving?

†**The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam:** (a) and (b). Under the revised scheme the sale of articles which are expensive, unessential or difficult to

+ The answer as read out in the House was as follows:

"(a) and (b). I would refer the honourable member to the reply given to Starred Question No. 497 asked by Prof. N. G. Ranga on 18th February, 1949."

Question No. 497 was, however, withdrawn and the answer as printed in the Debates was, therefore, made self-contained with the approval of the Honourable the Speaker.

handle or store, has been discontinued. Uniform scales of ration, subject to Provincial Rationing Rules, have been laid down and uniform prices have been prescribed. Moreover, Joint Purchasing Boards have been set up for the purchase by Railways of articles not supplied by the Provincial Governments, so that the purchases could be made on a co-ordinated basis.

The financial results expected to be realised by the acceptance of the Grain Shops Enquiry Committee's Report are shown below:

(i) Expenditure under the old scheme for relief in Cash and kind—

1948-49	39 crores
1949-50	42 crores

(ii) Expenditure under the scheme revised in accordance with the Grain Shops Enquiry Committee's recommendations, including the increased cash allowances of those who opted out of the grainshops—

1949-50 ... 33.5 to 37.5 crores.

plus a non-recurring expenditure of 39 lakhs in 1948-49.

The position has since been altered by the decision of Government to grant an increase in dearness allowance from 1st January 1949 as announced in the Press Communique of the 20th January 1949, viz. Rs. 10 p.m. to staff drawing upto Rs. 250, and eligible to draw dearness allowance like other Central Government employees and Rs. 5 p.m., to staff who continue to enjoy grainshop concessions. Government expect now a large number of staff to opt out of the grainshops particularly as the lump sum payments payable to staff drawing pay of Rs. 50 and below who opted out by 1st January 1949 have been sanctioned for those who opt out by the 31st March 1949. In view of this it is not possible to estimate yet the precise financial results.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: Have Government received any representation requesting them to add some more commodities in addition to those allowed under the new scheme, and if so, what steps do Government propose to take in that direction?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: Some representations were received at the end of last year and they were all rejected. Now all the grainshops are in a state of flux because under the new dearness allowance scheme many more railway employees are opting out of the grainshops scheme and there will be only a minority of employees availing themselves of the facilities of the grainshops.

Shri O. V. Alagesan: Why is it that this report was not published and circulated to members of this House?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: The report had been implemented long before the Session and it was not considered necessary to circulate it.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: What were the causes which led to the high expenses in the grainshops before and what are the defects which have been found by which this economy has been introduced?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: All those defects have been remedied and now the whole expenditure is being curtailed.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: Were any cases of corruption detected in this enquiry?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: The Committee itself did not go into individual cases of corruption, but they did hear allegations and they have stated them in the report.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunru: Whose recommendations have Government accepted on this subject—those of the Grain Shops Enquiry Committee or of the Indian Railway Enquiry Committee or those of any other body?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: The Government accepted the recommendations of the Grain Shops Enquiry Committee.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru: Is it a fact that the Government have accepted that report *in toto*?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: Except for minor details the Government has accepted the report *in toto*?

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru: What are those minor details in which there is a difference?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: If the honourable member wants to know them and puts a Question, I am prepared to supply the details.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: In view of the fact that this is a very important report which has saved nearly Rs. 10 crores, will the Honourable Minister send copies of the report to each and every Member and not confine it to C.A.C. Members only?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: I do not know if we have got copies; if there are copies I am quite prepared to send them.

Shri B. P. Jhumhunwala: What were the difficulties in the way of adopting those minor points also of the Railway Enquiry Committee so as to bring in more economy?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: All recommendations which were considered practicable have been accepted.

STRIKE NOTICE BY POST AND TELEGRAPH WORKERS

*962. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post and Telegraph workers have given notice of their intention to strike with effect from 9th March, 1949;

(b) the reasons for the proposed strike; and

(c) the measures that Government propose to take to avert the strike?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) to (c). Only one Union, the Union of Posts and Telegraphs Workers served a notice that unless Government conceded forthwith to thirty demands, the employees would go on strike on the 9th March. Most of the demands had been considered several times before and Government was satisfied that there was no good ground to justify the strike notice. Arrangements were, therefore, made for maintaining the services in the event of the strike materialising. The Union has, on better judgment, since withdrawn the notice.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What were the demands put forward by this Union and which were the demands that the Minister said had already been conceded?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: As I said there was a memo. containing more than thirty demands. I can send the honourable member a copy of the demands and the action taken by the Government.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: Am I clear in understanding from the Honourable Minister that all the Unions have now withdrawn their strike notice?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: As I said only one Union had given notice and that notice has been withdrawn.

SMUGGLING OF TEXTILES FROM INDIA TO PAKISTAN

*963. **Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cloth and other textile goods seized while being smuggled from India to Pakistan during the year 1948:

(b) how many cases of smuggling have been detected and dealt with and in what manner; and

(c) what precautions have been taken against its recurrence?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

(c) So far as smuggling from sea ports is concerned, the Customs Department is taking preventive measures. As regards smuggling by land, Land Customs Stations have been established on all the important land routes between India and Pakistan and regular customs patrols are also operating between Land Customs Stations.

Apart from these preventive measures, distribution of cloth is now being done through licensed dealers and in accordance with provincial and district quotas. This limits the quantity of cloth which reaches the border areas and can be smuggled into Pakistan. The textiles and police organisations of the Governments of the border Provinces or States keep an eye on sales to and by licensed dealers. Certain provinces situated on the border have also promulgated Orders controlling the movement of cloth within the border areas of the provinces. Indian States bordering on Pakistan have also taken similar precautions.

Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Has the situation improved now in respect of Pakistan?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Yes, Sir.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that most of the cloth that was smuggled to Pakistan was the undeclared cloth of the mills in Bombay?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It was done during the period when de-control was in operation and there was no question of declared or undeclared stocks.

Shri B. K. Sidbva: Were any steps taken by the Government during that period to prevent smuggling and may I know whether they have recovered any loss which the Government have sustained?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The smugglers had already sent the cloth and the loss could not be recovered. Several arrests were made.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Has Government tried to ascertain the quantity of cloth that was smuggled to Pakistan during the de-control period?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is what we are trying to do now.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the approximate figure?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I said, we have called for information from the Finance Ministry and I shall lay it on the Table as soon as possible.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Has any action been taken against any mill owner in Bombay who was responsible for the smuggling of this cloth?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: No millowners have been detected for smuggling as yet.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

FACTORIES MANUFACTURING CEMENT SHEETS

*364. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state how many factories there are in the Indian Union manufacturing cement sheets and what are the places of location of each?

(b) What has been the annual net production of each such factory for the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 in tons?

(c) How much of this stock was taken by (i) Central and (ii) Provincial Governments?

(d) How much of the stock was made available to (i) companies and firms and (ii) private persons?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Three factories all of which belong to Messrs. Asbestos Cement Ltd. They are located at: (i) Melund, (ii) Kymore, and (iii) Calcutta.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

(d) According to an informal arrangement with the firm, 28½ per cent. of the production is intended for business firms and five per cent. for private persons.

STATEMENT

Annual net production figures

Factory	1948-49 (January 1948 to November 1948)		Figures for 1947-48 are not available
	1948-49	1947-48	
Melund	31,492 tons		
Kymore	26,913 tons		
Calcutta	22,590 tons		

	Stock taken by Government 1947-48		1948-49 (1-4-48 to 31-12-48)
	1947-48	1948-49	
Central Government	9,792 tons	25,451 tons	
Provincial Government	82 tons	8,793 tons	

IMPORT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHEMICAL MANURES

*965. **Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the prices at which sulphate of ammonia and phosphates for purpose of manure were purchased from Britain, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republic and the United States of America in the years, 1946-47, 1947-48 and 1948-49;

(b) whether it is a fact that the British firm of Imperial Chemicals were and still are Government's agents both for purposes of purchase of these manures from Britain and also for internal distribution of most of these sulphates and phosphates in India;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Standing Finance Committee in May, 1948 had decided with the full concurrence of the Departmental representatives that internal distribution of these should be fully in the hands of Indian distributors at least by the year 1950; and

(d) what steps have been taken in regard to the decision referred to in part (c) above in 1948 and 1949?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement showing the quantities of Sulphate of Ammonia imported for manurial purpose and the prices at which it has been purchased from Britain, U.S.S.R. and U.S.A. during 1946-47, 1947-48 is placed on the table of the House. The statement also shows the quantity and the price of Ammonium Phosphate imported from

U.S.A. during the fertiliser year 1946-47. No Ammonium Phosphate has so far been purchased from U.K. and U.S.S.R. The rates for 1948-49 have not been included in the statement as negotiations are still pending with some firms and publications of the rates will prejudice these negotiations.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. Fertilisers are imported on Government account from different sources according to the allocations made by the World Food Council. The quota allocated from U.K. is purchased through the Director General, India Store Department, London, who are the Government procuring agents.

As regards the internal distribution Government have appointed four firms as their distributing agents of which M/s. Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., are one.

(c) and (d). Yes. All the agencies except the Imperial Chemical Industries employed by Government are Indian. The quota of the Imperial Chemical Industries was however considerably reduced for the fertilizer year beginning from 1st July 1948 and the major portion of Government imports of fertilisers is entrusted to three other Indian firms. The question of clearing and forwarding agents for 1949-50 is under consideration.

Qualities and prices of Government imported Sulphate of Ammonia and Ammonium Phosphate for 2 years.

Origin	1946-47	1947-48				
	Quantity Tons.	Rate per ton	Total value	Quantity Tons.	Rate per ton	Total value
U.K.	1,21,000	(1) £ 17 (Rs. 226/10/-) July to Dec. 1946. (2) £ 17.15 (Rs. 236/10/-) Jan. to June, 1947 C. & F. Indian Ports.	Rs. 3,06,49,000	56,860	(1) £ 18.10 (Rs. 247) July to Aug. 1947. (2) £ 19.00 (Rs. 254) Sept. to Dec. 1947. (3) £ 19.10 (Rs. 261) Jan. to June 1948. C. & F. Indian Ports.	Rs. 1,43,87,440
U.S.A.				17,500	£ 92.39 (Rs. 304) C & F. Indian Ports.	53,35,313
U.S.S.R.	6,939	Rs. 373/10/- C. & F. Indian Ports.	16,25,100	3,000	Rs. 365/- C. & F. Indian Ports.	10,96,000
			AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE			
U.K.						
U.S.A.				2,790	£ 88.8 (Rs. 293/-) per ton C. & F. Indian Ports.	8,18,230
U.S.S.R.						

RESTRICTIONS ON DESPATCH OF COTTON HOSIERY GOODS

*966. **Shri B. N. Munavalli:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state why the despatch of cotton hosiery goods is not allowed when cotton yarn is allowed?

(b) What is the loss suffered by the postal department since the said prohibitory order?

(c) Have Government any intention of revising the order?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) In accordance with the Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Transmission by Post) Prohibition Order, 1946, as imposed by the Ministry of Industry and Supply, and amended up-to-date, the despatch by inland post of cotton hosiery is allowed from one place to another in the Indian Union but the despatch of cotton yarn is restricted to any two places within the same Province.

(b) Nil.

(c) The honourable member may address this question to the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply.

LIGNITE DEPOSITS IN SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICT, MADRAS

*997. **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that large deposits of lignite have been discovered in the South Arcot district of the Madras Presidency and if so, what steps are being taken to develop these deposits?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: A large deposit of lignite extending over sixteen square miles with an average thickness of approximately twenty two feet, was located in the South Arcot District a few years ago. Since 1945, thirty-three boreholes have been sunk; and in 1946-47, when the mining of deposit was reaching "development stage", a mining engineer with necessary technical and other personnel was deputed from the Coal Commissioner's Organisation to examine the possibilities of exploiting the deposit. A statement is laid on the table showing the work so far done and the items proposed to be undertaken.

STATEMENT

The work so far done by the staff deputed to investigate the possibilities of exploiting the deposit includes:

- (i) Sinking of two pits—one of 10 feet diameter to a depth of 180 feet and the other of 18 feet diameter to a depth of 30 feet; and
- (ii) Prospecting of an additional area of about 13 square miles which has been found to contain a very thick bed of lignite.

Further prospecting for delineating the boundaries of the deposit and for proving its quality, thickness, depths from the surface, etc., is now being carried out.

The items of work proposed to be undertaken are:

- (a) sinking of a pit in the additional area;
- (b) sinking of two pits near Uyyakondaravi where 75 feet lignite has been found at a depth of 325 feet from the surface;
- (c) boring operations to map the lignite deposits; and
- (d) deep drilling to prove the farthest extent of the lignite field South-eastward.

MODIFICATIONS IN DAKOTA AEROPLANES AGAINST FIRE

*968. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what modifications have been recently introduced and made mandatory on Dakota aeroplanes by the United States of America Civil Aeronautics Administration and the United Kingdom Air Registration Board with a view to ensuring safety against fire;

(b) whether such modifications have been introduced on the Dakotas in India; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) I lay on the table a statement giving the required information.

(b) The modifications which are considered necessary are being enforced.

(c) There has been delay in carrying out modifications on account of the non-availability of a number of component parts, but every attempt is being made to procure them.

STATEMENT

The following are the mandatory modifications recently introduced on the Dakotas by the Civil Aeronautics Administration of the United States of America and the Air Registration Board of the United Kingdom with a view to ensure safety against fire:

I. *United States of America:*

- (1) Installation of fire detectors in the engine accessory section.
- (2) Rear baggage compartment, access door and vent (where applicable).
- (3) Elimination of all holes in fire wall, addition of control cable seals, replacement of dural plates and fittings with steel plates and fittings
- (4) Replacement of fluid carrying lines, forward of fire wall with a steel or fire resistance flexible hoses.
- (5) Installation of shut-off valves on lines carrying combustible fluids into the engine accessory section.
- (6) Use of fire-resisting materials in the cabin where smoking is permitted.

II. *United Kingdom:*

- (1) Installation of fire warning lights. (Nos. 1 and 2 of the U.S.A. requirements.)
- (2) Inertia switch operation of the fire extinguishing system in addition to manual operation. (This is additional to the U.S.A. requirements.)
- (3) Introduction of flame-proof hoses in engine bay. (No. 4 of the U.S.A. requirements.)
- (4) Fireproofing of firewall. (No. 3 of U.S.A. requirements.)

ORGANISATIONS FOR RESEARCH ON CROPS

*869. **Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there are separate central organisations responsible for research on paddy, cotton, sugarcane, oilseeds, jute, tobacco, coconut, potato and lac?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes.

EXPANSION OF INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*970. **Ch. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indian Agricultural Research Institute has been considerably expanded during the period from 1940 to 1949 and further extension is under contemplation at a cost of nearly a crore of rupees?

(b) Is it a fact that under the expansion plans, the salaries of most of the superior staff have been doubled in comparison to what they were drawing before?

(c) Is it also a fact that an Englishman is being brought from the United Kingdom as the Head of a division in the institute?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) There has been some expansion since 1946.

A five-year post-war expansion scheme was accepted in principle, involving an expenditure of nearly Rs. 1 crore in 1948-49. But this has been postponed owing to financial stringency.

(b) No. The salaries of the entire staff have been refixed under the Central Services Revision of Pay Rules, 1947.

(c) Yes. There is a proposal under consideration to appoint for a period of two years an Englishman who is a distinguished scientist and a specialist as Head of Division of Entomology, to initiate new lines of research in the subject.

OFFICER STRENGTH IN AGRICULTURAL DIVISION OF INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*971. **Oh. Ranbir Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the officer strength in the Agricultural Division of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and how many are graduates in Agriculture?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The Agriculture Division (now called the Division of Agronomy) has on its officer strength, one Head of Division, three Class I and ten Class II Officers.

Of them one in Class I and six in Class II are graduates in Agriculture, some of them possessing higher qualifications.

The others are graduates in sciences basic to Agriculture like Soil Chemistry (Agronomical), Botany, Animal Husbandry, and Statistics.

IMPROVEMENT OF CATTLE BREED

*972. **Oh. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Agricultural Division of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute has an old herd of milch cows and that new breeds have been introduced in this country?

(b) Is it also a fact that the central dairy institute at Bangalore or the Indian Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Institute at Izzatnagar are also working for the improvement of cattle stock?

(c) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to co-ordinate these institutions?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The experimental work of the Agriculture Division which is now called the Agronomy Division, is concerned with developing high yielding strains of Sahiwal and Tharparkar breeds of cattle by scientific breeding and adoption of improved methods of cattle husbandry. The Sahiwal herd is maintained at Pusa (New Delhi) and the Tharparkar at Karnal. Considerable improvements have been effected in the milk yield of both the herds. India possesses a number of good breeds of its own and it is consequently not considered essential to introduce any new breeds from other countries.

(b) Yes. But the breeds developed in each are different. The Tharparkar and Sahiwal in the first, the Sindi, Gir, and the Murrah buffalo in the second, and the Haryana and Kumauni hill type in the third.

(c) The work of these institutes is complementary to one another and the technical programmes and the annual progress reports of all the three are co-ordinated by the Scientific Committees of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION AND CONTRACTORS

*973. **Master Wand Lal:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Central Advisory Council for

Railways in its meeting held on the 14th April 1945 on subject No. 3—“Catering Policy” considered and agreed on certain general principles?

(b) Is it a fact that under instructions from the Government the following contracts and vending licenses on the Eastern Punjab Railway are terminated:

- (i) contract for bookstalls held by M. Gulab Singh and Sons;
- (ii) licenses of vending at Meerut City, Meerut Cantonment and Ambala Cantonment held by Messrs. Daulat Ram and Company?

(c) If so, what are the reasons therefor?

(d) Is it a fact that in the agreements made between the Railway Administration and the Contractors there still exists a clause contrary to the said policy?

(e) If so, what are the reasons for not mending this term in the agreement according to that policy?

(f) Do Government now propose to cancel the orders of terminating those contracts and licences and amend the term of the agreement?

(g) If not, what are the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). (i) So far as the contract for bookstalls held by Messrs. Gulab Singh and Sons is concerned, the Chief Administrative Officer served notice terminating the contract as from 31st December, 1948, in terms of the agreement entered into, because of the contractors' unsatisfactory work. The contractors have however obtained an injunction from the Court and the matter is now *sub-judice*.

(ii) The vending licences at Meerut City, Meerut Cantt., and Ambala Cantt., held by Messrs. Daulat Ram and Company were terminated at one month's notice in terms of the agreement by the E. P. Railway Administration after complaints of infringement of the terms of the licences, had been investigated departmentally.

(d) It is not a fact.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No.

(g) Because the action taken is in public interests.

ENQUIRY AGAINST SUB-LETTING OF VENDING LICENCES AT GHAZIABAD, MEERUT CITY AND MEERUT CANTONMENT

*974. **Master Nand Lal:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the East Punjab Railway Administration on the instructions from the Minister of State conducted enquiries on the complaints against the sub-letting of licences for vending, at Ghaziabad, Meerut City and Meerut Cantonment in November and December 1948?

(b) Will Government state the orders passed thereon?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) Certain complaints relating to the alleged sub-letting of vending contracts at Ghaziabad, Meerut City and Meerut Cantonment, were referred by the Railway Board to the Chief Administrative Officer of the E. P. Railway for investigation.

(b) As the complaint against the contractor at Ghaziabad could not be substantiated, no action was taken. The contracts at Meerut City and Meerut Cantonment were, however, terminated with a month's notice as it was considered that the truth of the complaints had been established.

ALLOWANCES TO RUNNING STAFF

*975. **Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any distinction in giving allowances to Running Staff between one class of Railway servants and another and if so, why?

(b) Are the Travelling Ticket Checkers classed as Running Staff and if not, why not?

(c) Are there different standards of allowances given to Travelling Ticket Checkers in different Railways and if so, why?

(d) Is it under the consideration of Government to give the same allowance to all Running Staff and to include Travelling Ticket Checkers in the class of Running staff?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) The answer is in the affirmative; this difference is due to difference in the nature of the duties and responsibilities of the various categories of running staff.

(b) No; only staff incharge of moving trains are classed as Running staff.

(c) and (d). The rates of travelling allowance paid to Travelling Ticket Checkers on the various railways are not uniform at present as on some Railways these rates were fixed under Company Managements in accordance with their own procedure. The introduction of an uniform procedure is under the consideration of the Board. It has already been stated that Travelling Ticket Checkers are not Running staff.

EXTRA CHARGE FOR EMBOSSED ENVELOPES

*976. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Communications at its meeting held on the 2nd February, 1949 accepted the proposal of the Ministry to levy an extra charge for embossed envelopes?

(b) If so, what will be the extra charge and on envelopes of what denominations will this be levied?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (a) Yes.

(b) The Standing Advisory Committee having approved of the principle, actual details are now being worked out and till that has been done, it is not possible to give the information asked for.

CATERING CONTRACT TO MESSRS. BALLAVDAS ESWARDAS ON
B. N. RAILWAY

*977. **Shri Satis Chandra Samanta:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Deputy General Manager (Food), Bengal Nagpur Railway, entered into a contract with Messrs. Ballavdas Eswardas and others for a period of three years for catering at certain stations prior to 21st February, 1949, the last date for receiving applications for the appointment of contractors?

(b) Are Government aware that Messrs. Ballavdas Eswardas and others sublet stations at exorbitant rates to persons who call themselves managers of those contractors and keep duplicate records of accounts in their names?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) No new contracts have been entered into but an offer was made to Messrs. Ballavdas Eswardas and other existing contractors prior to 21st February, 1949, for the renewal of leases at certain large stations on the Bengal Nagpur Railway, for a period of one year. This offer is now being reviewed in consequence of a recent decision taken by

the Railway Board, after consultation with the Central Advisory Council for Railways, that as far as possible refreshment rooms and stalls at small stations should be entrusted to local professional men and that contracts for dining cars and large stations should be left to hoteliers or catering firms of repute.

(b) Government have seen allegations that contracts are sublet by vending contractors. The revised policy is intended to prevent subletting.

REQUIREMENTS AND PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

*978. **Shri B. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether there were any areas in the provinces, the Centrally Administered areas and the Indian States which did not report about the production of principal foodgrains there?

(b) If so, what was the estimated produce of principal foodgrains in such areas in the year 1947-48?

(c) What was the total crop of "small millets" in the provinces, the Centrally Administered areas and the Indian States in the year 1947-48?

(d) What is the exact requirement of the provinces, the Centrally Administered areas and the Indian States in regard to foodgrains?

(e) What is their population?

(f) What was the requirement per adult unit per day in the year 1947-48?

(g) What proportion of the imported foodgrains is consumed by (i) Indian States; (ii) provinces; and (iii) Centrally Administered areas?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: (a) A certain number of States did not report about the production of principal foodgrains in their areas.

(b) The estimate of gross production of principal foodgrains for the 'totally non-reporting' and 'partially non-reporting' areas is taken as 3.4 million tons.

(c) The estimate of gross production of 'small millets' for the Indian Union is taken as 1.6 million tons.

(d) The estimated requirements for 1948 are 32.3, 0.3 and 12.6 million tons respectively. The corresponding figures for 1949 are 32.5, 0.3 and 12.7 million tons.

(e) The estimated population for 1948 is 248.3, 2.0 and 96.7 millions respectively. Corresponding figures for 1949 are 251.1, 2.0 and 97.9 millions. The adult equivalent is taken at 86 per cent.

(f) Requirements are usually calculated on the basis of 1 lb. per adult per day for the farm population and 12 oz. per adult per day for non-farm population.

(g) The proportion in 1947-48 was

(i) Provinces—57 per cent.

(ii) Centrally Administered Areas—5 per cent.

(iii) Indian States—27 per cent.

(iv) Miscellaneous—11 per cent.

The corresponding figures for 1948-49 are 50 per cent., 5 per cent., 29 per cent. and 16 per cent.

AGMARKING AND STANDARDISATION OF INDIAN WOOL

*979. **Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state for how long the question of Agmarking and standardising various qualities of Indian wool has been under consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research?

(b) How many conferences have been held in this connection and with what result?

(c) Is introduction of standardisation expected at an early date?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: (a) Since October, 1945.

(b) Two. The trade interests are generally opposed to the introduction of Agmarking and standardisation.

(c) In view of persistent opposition of trade to compulsory standardisation, attempts were made to persuade trade to adopt grading for internal trade and export purposes on a voluntary basis. But as the response was not encouraging, a proposal to regulate the quality of wool for export under the Sea Customs Act is now being considered.

SALE OF GRADED WOOL IN U.S.A.

*980. **Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) since how long Messrs. Kamani Brothers Limited, Kamani Chambers, Nicol Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay have been trading in Wool,

(b) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural Marketing Adviser in his letter No. F.13/88/44-G, dated 20th November, 1948 to the President, Institute of Carpet Manufacturers of America, mentioned Messrs. Kamani Brothers, Limited, Kamani Chambers, Nicol Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay as having made a request to him to assist the shippers in the sale of 200 bales of graded wool in the United States of America;

(c) whether Government are aware that the said firm of Messrs. Kamani Brothers Limited had never traded in wool before and are in fact dealers in metal; and

(d) whether Government propose to make an investigation into the matter?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: (a) Messrs. Kamani Brothers Limited are new comers to trading in wool.

(b) Yes. A copy of the letter referred to in the question is placed on the table. This was the only firm which had agreed to export wool according to standard specifications as desired by the Institute. In the interest of India's export trade in wool, similar assistance would be given to any firm which agreed to export according to standard specifications.

(c) Yes. New comers have not been banned from entering any trade.

(d) Government have examined this matter and find that the wool trade which has consistently opposed compulsory regulation of standard specifications for wool for export to foreign countries have not appreciated the action of any firm agreeing to export wool according to standard specifications.

Copy of letter No. F. 13/88/44-G., dated the 20th November, 1948 from the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Government of India, New Delhi to the President, Institute of Carpet Manufacturers of America, Inc. Empire State Building, New York (U.S.A.).

I have the honour to recall the interview I had with you (President Mr. Merrill A. Watson) in New York on the 25th June, 1947, on the subject of the development of Carpet wool trade between India and the United States of America. As advised by you, I interviewed on the same day Mr. F. A. Hayes and Mr. D. C. Higley of Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co., Inc., (140 Madison Avenue, N. Y.). Subsequently, on the 27th June, 1947, I had a long discussion with Mr. Frederick Klein, President, Mr. W. C. Evans, Vice-President and Mr. C. A. Tully of Alexander Smith and Sons, Carpet Company (Lake Avenue, Yonkers, N. Y.).

2. These discussions clearly brought forward the point that shipments of wool from India to the U.S.A. were of uncertain and indifferent qualities and, as such, the trade and the manufacturers in the U.S.A. would greatly appreciate any step which India might take to regulate the quality of her export of wool. Since after my return home, I have been paying

special attention to this question and, in consultation with those who are in the know of the trade, I have been able to prepare tentative grade specifications for wool exported out of India. I am enclosing herewith a copy of those specifications for such comments as your Institute may be kind enough to offer. I am also persuading the shippers in this country to export wool in accordance with those specifications and a request has just been received by me from a leading business concern from Bombay (Messrs. Kainani Brothers, Ltd., Kainani Chambers, Nicol Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay, India) to assist them in the sale of 200 bales of graded wool in the U.S.A. As far as is known to me, this business concern is a large and dependable organisation and I have reasons to believe that they would export wool in accordance with the proposed standard specifications.

Any assistance your Institute might give to this business concern from Bombay in selling wool in the United States of America on the basis of standard grades, would be highly appreciated. I am advising the firm to approach you for such advice and assistance which it may be possible for your Institute to render.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING ADVISER'S VISIT TO U.S.A. IN CONNECTION WITH INDIAN WOOL TRADE

*981. **Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India visited the United States of America last year and contacted carpet manufacturers of that country interested in Indian wool; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the nature of talk he had in the United States of America and the use to which the knowledge he gained there was put to?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes. In June 1947.

(b) He discussed with the Institute of Carpet Manufacturers, America (Inc.), New York, the question of carpet wool trade between India and U.S.A. and the type and quality of Indian wool used by American manufacturers. He was advised by the Institute that the manufacturers in America would greatly appreciate if India could export her wool exactly in accordance with standard specifications. This information was made known to the wool trade in India and the Agricultural Marketing Adviser advised exporters to export their wool in accordance with Agmark standards.

SHIFTING OF RAILWAY CLEARING ACCOUNTS OFFICE FROM DELHI

*982. **Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the action proposed to be taken on para. 169 of Chapter XVI of the Railway Enquiry Committee Report in regard to the working of the Railway Clearing Accounts Office;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the Association of the Clerks of the Office that the office should not be shifted from Delhi;

(c) whether it is a fact that a majority of the staff of the Railway Clearing Accounts Office belong to Punjab, Delhi and the United Provinces; and

(d) whether Government would ascertain the wishes of the staff for the choice of the station in case it is proposed to shift the office?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: (a) Government have not reached any decision on the recommendation of the Indian Railway Enquiry Committee.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) In case it is decided to move the office elsewhere, the convenience of the staff will certainly be a consideration in selecting the site.

CONTRACTOR FOR TONGA STANDS AT DELHI MAIN STATION

*983. **Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway authorities have appointed any contractor for the tonga stands at the Delhi main Station;

(b) whether Government are aware that a fee of annas four per tonga is being charged by a self-appointed contractor from each tonga driver before he is permitted to take passengers; and

(c) whether Government propose to compel the tonga drivers permitted to stand at the Railway sheds to display prominently the rates prescribed for different localities in Delhi?

The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam: (a) No contractor has been appointed by the railway authorities for the tonga stands at Delhi Main station.

(b) The Government are not aware of any such arrangement.

(c) Tongas ply under the regulations of the Delhi Municipality and tonga drivers are required to exhibit authorised rates on the tongas. Municipal regulations are enforced by a Municipal Jamadar posted at Delhi Main station.

BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

*984. **Dr. Raghu Vira:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any botanical survey of any parts of India within the last ten years;

(b) if so, whether any additional food-plants for human beings and cattle have been discovered; and

(c) if so, what their potentialities are?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulstram: (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SUPPLY OF HARD COKE TO MANUFACTURERS OF BRASS INGOTS

*985. **Dr. Raghu Vira:** Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of concerns carrying on the industry of manufacturing brass ingots for circles and sheets in the East Punjab and the United Provinces;

(b) whether hard-coke quotas allotted to such concerns are in accordance with the quantities of their supplies of brass circles and sheets to different parts of India; and

(c) if this be not the case in any of the abovementioned provinces, whether Government propose to take any action in the matter as far as their hard-coke supplies by the centre are concerned?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) One in East Punjab and three in U.P.

(b) and (c). Government of India have no information as allotment of hard coke is done by Provincial Governments. The Central Government however in some special cases allot additional quantities to the Provincial Governments concerned for allocation to the firms whose normal requirements could not be met by the Provincial Governments.

REMOVAL OF TWO OFFICERS OF DIRECTORATE OF FOODGRAINS MOVEMENT FROM HEADQUARTERS

*986. **Shri Satish Chandra:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that two officers of the Directorate of Foodgrains Movement were removed from headquarters at Delhi a few months ago on account of certain complaints against them?

(b) What are the designations of those Officers and the nature of complaints against each of them?

(c) Have the complaints been investigated so far, and if so, what is the result?

(d) Were they suspended or transferred to some other place pending investigation?

(e) Where are they working now and in what capacity?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) and (d). One officer was sent outside Delhi, while another went on leave.

(b) One is a Chief Director and the other a Deputy Director of Movement. As the complaints are still under investigation it is not desirable to disclose the nature of the complaints.

(c) The investigation has not been completed.

(e) One of the officers has been reverted to his parent office on the expiry of his leave and the other is still attached to the Food Ministry.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PRODUCTION OF IMPROVED SEEDS

75. **Shri Satis Chandra Samanta:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what is Dr. Burn's estimate of percentage increase of production by (i) manure and fertilisers; and (ii) by seeds?

(b) What are the quantities of improved seeds proposed to be produced in the next three financial years—year by year?

(c) How will they be raised and distributed?

(d) What is the estimated cost which will have to be incurred by Government in this regard?

(e) What is the estimated increase in yield per acre expected by the use of improved seeds (cereal by cereal)?

(f) What are the improved varieties of seeds which Government propose to raise—province by province, and crop by crop?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) (i) Twenty to forty per cent. by use of manure and fertilisers, and (ii) five to ten per cent. by the use of improved seeds.

(b) The programmes of the Provincial Governments hitherto received show that the following quantities of improved seeds for all foodgrains will be produced during 1949-50 to 1951-52:

1949-50	128 lakh maunds
1950-51	118 lakh maunds
1951-52	127 lakh maunds

According to the present plans the Provinces of Madras, Bombay, and Orissa will be able to cover by 1951-52, the following percentages of the total areas under the foodgrains mentioned below with improved seeds:

	Madras	Bombay	Orissa
Paddy	75%	42%	54%
Maize		44%	..
Bejra	30.6%	..	..
Ragi	55.6%	..	..
Graru	..	75%	..

The Government are reconsidering the proposals of other Provinces with a view to step up production.

(c) The practice is that nucleus seeds are first multiplied at Government Farms. Seeds thus raised are given to 'A' class growers for further multiplication. All these are recovered and are given to a large number of 'B' class growers and the seeds recovered from the latter are distributed to cultivators.

(d) The total expenditure likely to be incurred by various Governments during the 3 years from 1949-50 to 1951-52 is estimated at Rs. 373 lakhs except for Assam for which figures are not available.

(e) and (f). Two statements are laid on the table.

STATEMENT I.

Estimated percentage of increase in production by use of improved seeds.

Paddy	.	.	.	10.20%
Wheat	.	.	.	10.20%
Gram	.	.	.	8-10%
Bajra	.	.	.	5-10%
Jowar	.	.	.	8-10%
Barley	.	.	.	10%
Maize	.	.	.	10%
Cholam	.	.	.	10-15%
Ragi	.	.	.	10-15%
Tenai	.	.	.	10-15%
Nagli.	.	.	.	10-15%

STATEMENT II.

Varieties of improved seeds to be raised by Provincial Governments.

(1) MADRAS—

(i) Paddy.—

(a) Coimbatore Strains—

●EB 24, Co. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, and 20. T. 72 (Patnai Kasiplobodi).

(b) Maruturu Strains—

MTV. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 S. R. 26 B.

(c) Aduturai Strains—

ADT. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22.

(d) Palur Strains—

PLR. 1, 2, 7.

(e) Patanbi Strains—

PTB. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

(f) Berhampore Strains—

BAM. 1, 3, 6, 7 and 9.

(g) Anakapalle—

MYAPLI 7 and 30, Navakoti Saunam 3 and 4, Bangaruteega 9 and 155, Gunpur sannam 47, Maharajabhogam 4, Simkussannam 5, Bobbilizanti 1.

(h) Samalkota Strains—

SLO. 1, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

(i) Buchiredaipalem Strains—

Molagulakaluculture 2202; 2552 and 2555; Pishanam culture 1282.

(j) Ambasamudram Strains—

ASD 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

(ii) *Bajra*.—

E. C. 3755 ; E. C. 593 No. 525 and R. 42.

(iii) *Cholam*.—

As. 29, 389, 2095 and 3313

M. 47.3 (Bold grain and draught resistant) N.S. 4

M. K. 132 and 140.

(iv) *Cumabus (Bajra)*.—

K. 8

P. T. 700, 367 and 2229.

(2) BIHAR—

(i) *Paddy*.—BK. 115, BK. 36, BK. 16,

BK. 88, BK. 141, IP. 24,

IP. 31, BK. 498.2A.

(ii) *Wheat*.—Kolba Wheat.—IP. 52.

(3) C. P. AND BERAR—

(i) *Paddy*.—

Early—R. 2. Nungi.

R. 3 Sultu Gurmatia.

Medium.—R. 4. Surmatia.

R. 5. Ludko.

X 116 (Bhundu × Parewa)

X 22 (Ditto)

Late

X 19 (Budhiabako × Parewa)

R 6 Budhiabako.

R 7 Ajan,

R 8 Benisar.

R 8 Luchai.

Gurmatia.

(ii) Fine scented varieties

Medium—R 10 Chhatti.

R 11 Dubraj.

R 12 Banspatri.

Late—R 13 Kubrimohar.

R 14 Badeshabbbog.

Very late.—R. 15 Gurnoor.

Purple-leaved Hybrids for eradicating wild rice (Karga).

Early X (Nagkesar × No. 17).

Medium—X 2 (Nagkesar × Bhundu).

Late—X 55 (Nagkesar × Luchai.)

Wheat.—

I. P. 52, A 090, A 115 and Pusa 101.

(4) ORISSA—

Paddy, improved varieties of Wheat, Maize and Gram.

(5) UNITED PROVINCES.—Improved varieties of Wheat, Paddy, Grams, Millets and Pulses.

(6) EAST PUNJAB—

(i) *Wheat*: C. 227, 228, 250, 253, 517, 518 and 591.

(ii) *Gram Punjab*

Type 7 Gram G. 13, 24,

C. 12, 24.

- (a) Gram Punjab—
Type 1.
- (b) Grain A 1/3.
- (iii) Bajra—A. 1/5.
A. 1/3.
- (iv) Barley Type. 6
Barley Type. 4
- (v) Rice—349 Jhona; 370 Basmati.
100, Ramajawan, 72 Pbulpatti.
41 Lainakanda, Muslikan.
- (vi) Sugarcane Col. 9.
- (vii) Maize—Hybrid.
- (viii) Guara No. 2.
- (ix) Jowar No. 21.
- (x) Toria Selection A.
- (xi) Rya L. 18.
- (xii) Oats F.O.S. 1/28 Algerian.
- (xiii) American Cotton L. 6.8.
- (xiv) Potato Kangra Local.
- (7) BOMBAY—
- (i) Paddy—A-67, A-90, A-200, M-161, M-81, M-249, M-141, D-6-22, K-540, K-226, K-42, Z-31, Z-149, I.B. 12-11, Patni-6, Prawn-61, Waksal 107, Jhadas 79, Varangal 487, Arabe rochar 157 and 159.
- (ii) Bajra—
Nadind 207.
Akola.
- (iii) Maize—Sumari.
- (iv) Ngli—B-11, E-31 and A-16.
M-35.1
- (v) Jowar—B-8
- (vi) Wheat—Gulab, Motin, Jaya, Vijaya and N. 4.
- (vii) Gram—Chaffa.

MIXING OF SESAMUM OIL WITH VANASPATHI

76. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that his Ministry have decided that 5 per cent. sesamum oil is to be mixed with vanaspathi before its being sold?

(b) If so, do Government propose to lay a copy of the order on the table of the House?

(c) What arrangements are there to see that this rule is observed?

(d) Have any factories been prosecuted for not observing this and, if so, how many and which factories?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes. Sesame or til oil is to be mixed at the factory stage i.e. before it is sold. (The underlying idea is that the presence of vanaspathi so mixed can be detected by a simple chemical test if it is used for adulteration with ghee by the mixing trade. The measure is known as Latent Colourisation.)

(b) A copy of the order is laid on the table of the House.

(c) The provision has been brought to the notice of the Provincial and State Governments and through them to the notice of the Local Bodies who are

responsible for administering the Pure Food Laws. They as well as the Inspectors appointed by the Vanaspathi Manufacturing Association occasionally draw test samples from the factories as well as from the markets.

As a further safeguard it is now proposed to appoint two Inspectors on the staff of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller for the purpose of taking check samples in order to test that Vanaspathi is being manufactured according to specifications laid down in the Control Order.

(d) No case of violation of the order by the factories has come to the notice of Government so far.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD
NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 31st January, 1947

No. 5.VP(1)/47.—In exercise of the powers conferred by subclause (1) of clause 4 of the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order, 1946, as continued in force by sub-section (2) of section 17 of the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 (XXIV of 1946), and in pursuance of the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Food, No. 5.VP(1)/45, dated the 26th July, 1945, the Vegetable Oil Products Controller for India hereby prohibits the manufacture, stock or sale of any vegetable oil products, which does not conform to the following particulars, namely:

- (1) It shall not contain any harmful colouring, flavouring or any other matter deleterious to health.
- (2) It shall not have moisture exceeding 0.25 per cent.
- (3) The melting point as estimated by the capillary slip method (as described in Note 1 below) shall be from 31°C to 37°C both inclusive with a tolerance of 2°C on either side.
- (4) The Butyro Refractometer reading at 40°C shall not be less than 48.0.
- (5) It shall not have emulsifiable matter exceeding 1.5 per cent.
- (6) It shall not have free fatty acids (calculated as oleic acid) exceeding 0.25 per cent.
- (7) Discetyl, if present, shall not be in excess of six parts per million.
- (8) The product on melting shall be clear in appearance. Its taste shall be free from staleness or rancidity.
- (9) On and after the 1st March, 1947, it shall contain refined or refined hydrogenated sesame (til) oil not less than 5 per cent. by weight so that when the vegetable oil product is mixed with refined groundnut oil in the proportion of 20:80, the red colour produced by the Roudouin test (as described in Note 11 below) shall not be lighter than 2.0 units in a 1 cm. cell of a Lovibond scale.

NOTE 1.—The 'Capillary Slip Method' is as follows:

- (i) Thin walled glass tube open at both ends with an external diameter of 1.2 to 1.5 mm. and internal diameter of 0.83 to 1.1 mm. and length 5 to 6 cms. should be used after proper cleaning and drying.
- (ii) The sample of fat should be completely melted and well mixed at a temperature of about 50°C. Insert the capillary tube so that a column of fat about one cm. long is forced into it. Allow the fat in the tube to just set by keeping the tube in a horizontal position during winter, and during summer the tube may be put on a perforated metal tray which is so placed inside a small water bath containing water at 15°C.—17°C. that the bottom of the tray just touches the water.
- (iii) The tube is then placed in a test-tube immersed in water at 15°C.—17°C. for one hour.
- (iv) Suspend a thermometer (reading in 1/5th of a degree) in the centre of a beaker of water 10°C. (the beaker is to be provided with a side tube heating arrangement) so that the lower end of the fat column is 3 cms. below the surface of

water. Heat the side tube of the apparatus gently, so that the temperature of water increases slowly at the rate of 2°C . per minute till the temperature reaches 25°C . and thereafter at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ a degree per minute.

- (v) Note the temperature of water when the fat commences to rise in the tube. This temperature is recorded as the melting point.

The thermometer used in this test should be checked against a standard thermometer calibrated and certified by the National Physics Laboratory, Teddington, England.

NOTE II.—The Baudouin test shall be carried out as follows :—

Place in a test-tube 5 c.c. of the sample (20 parts of Vegetable Oil Products and 80 parts of refined groundnut oil) and 5 c.c. of Hydrochloric Acid (Specific Gravity 1.19) and add to it 8 drops of 2 per cent. solution in alcohol of freshly distilled furfural; shake vigorously for 2 minutes and allow to stand. The acid layer becomes distinctly red. Quickly filter the acid layer through a wet filter paper and examine the filtrate against a Lovibond scale in a 1 c.m. cell or against a red colour comparator.

If the Vegetable oil products on being shaken with hydrochloric acid alone, conveys a redness to the hydrochloric acid owing to the presence of certain artificial colouring agents, the procedure is as follows:—

Shake 10 c.c.s. of the melted vegetable oil products in a separating funnel for half a minute with 10 c.c.s. of hydrochloric acid, specific gravity 1.125. Draw off the red acid layer which collects at the bottom of the funnel and repeat the process until no further coloration takes place. During the treatment do not permit the temperature of the contents of the separating funnel to exceed that necessary to melt the fat. After the hydrochloric acid has been completely removed apply the Baudouin test as described above.

N. T. MONE,

Vegetable Oil Products Controller for India.

Copy of letter No. 5-VP(2)/47, dated the 24th June, 1947 from the Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller for India, New Delhi to All Provincial Governments and Minor Administrations.

The use of the term 'Vegetable Ghee' describing vegetable oil products which are also called 'Vegetable Products' or 'Vanaspatti' has come into common use. Vanaspatti is not ghee but refined hydrogenated Oil though it bears physical resemblance to ghee and the industry itself does not look with favour upon the association of the word 'Ghee' with 'Vanaspatti', as it gives the impression that Vanaspatti is counterfeit ghee and thus detracts from its value in the eyes of the public. It is therefore suggested that the use of the appellation 'Vegetable Ghee' should be discontinued and the article should be called 'Vegetable Product' or 'Vegetable Oil Product' or simply 'Vanaspatti'.

2. Due to its resemblance with ghee, Vanaspatti lends itself easily to adulteration with genuine ghee and thus affects adversely the ghee as well as the Vanaspatti Industry. In order to minimise adulteration and to make Vanaspatti clearly distinguishable from ghee, the Government of India have for the last three years taken wide powers to control Vanaspatti on an all India basis. It is necessary, under the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order, 1946, to manufacture Vanaspatti only to certain approved specifications (copy enclosed for ready reference). It is also incumbent on the industry to mark and identify Vanaspatti container conspicuously so that the consumer is left in no doubt as to what the container contains. It is further made an offence for the stockists of Vanaspatti to stock or sell pure ghee on the same premises. Last but not the least, it has been made obligatory on all Vanaspatti manufacturers to incorporate such percentage of Sesame Oil in Vanaspatti as may render practicable the detection of ghee adulterated with Vanaspatti up to 10 per cent. It does not generally pay the mixing trade to adulterate ghee with lesser quantities of Vanaspatti and it is, therefore, not absolutely necessary to safeguard adulteration below 10 per cent. This measure follows the procedure adopted in foreign countries where margarine, which can be mixed with butter, is produced. Sesame Oil when incorporated in Vanaspatti acts as a latent colouriser and with its addition adulteration can be detected by a simple chemical test. The test is described in the Notification itself prescribing the compulsory addition of Sesame Oil. For the layman who may not be able to undertake the prescribed chemical test the following alternative test will serve the purpose :

'Dissolve a pinch of Cane Sugar in about half an ounce of concentrated hydrochloric acid (Specific gravity 1.20) in a test tube. Add to it $\frac{1}{2}$ —1 tals of the vegetable product or ghee of doubtful quality previously melted and shake vigorously when a pink colour will develop indicating the presence of til oil.'

The test will indicate that the sample of ghee is adulterated with Vanaspatti. It must however, be emphasised that no measure against adulteration however simple, can succeed

unless the Provincial Governments and local bodies who have to administer Pure Food Laws are alive to the danger of adulteration and take active steps to prevent it.

3. As the evil of adulteration of ghee is wide spread I would invite your co-operation in enforcing the measure outlined above by bringing it to the notice of the local bodies in your jurisdiction and authorities subordinate to you who are entrusted with the duty of administering Pure Food Laws, as well as the consuming public. Local Pure Food Laws may be suitably amended and all dealers selling 'Pure Ghee' as well as the inspecting staff may be required to keep with them the material which is required to carry out the simple chemical test mentioned in para. 2 above.

4. In view of the introduction of this reform, I am to request that your Government may reconsider if any legislation aiming at compulsory colouration of Vanaspati is essential as it will result merely in destroying the Psychological appeal of Vanaspati to the public without making detection of adulteration any more effective. I would bring to your notice that as yet no colourising material which would not affect the keeping quality of Vanaspati, would not be injurious to health, would not be easily eliminated by heating or by chemical process, would be non-toxic and which would not be objectionable to sight, smell or taste, has yet been discovered.

FACTORIES MANUFACTURING VANASPATI

77. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state how many factories there are in all in India for the manufacture of vanaspati?

(b) What are the names of the factories?

(c) What are the places where they are situated?

(d) What is the annual production of each?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Twenty seven factories were in production of Vanaspati for edible purposes at the end of 1948.

(b) to (d). A statement is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT
Production of Vanaspathi during 1947 and 1948.

Province or State.	Sl. No.	Name of Firm.	Production in		Recognised Capacity (annual)	Location	Remarks.
			1947	1948			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bombay	1	Hindustan Vanaspathi Mfg. Co.	29,543	38,189	55,000	Bombay city.	
"	2	Indian Vegetable Prod.	4,820	6,863	17,100	"	
"	3	Veg. Vit. Foods Co. Ltd.	2,222	1,584	7,800	"	
"	4	Swaraj Oil Mills Ltd.	3,458	4,475	9,600	"	
"	5	Amrit Vanaspathi Co.	3,554	3,988	8,000	"	
"	6	Amrit Oil Mills	741	2,051	2,000	"	
"	7	Bharat Vanaspathi Prod.	2,242	3,129	9,000	Pachora.	*Started production in Aug. 1948.
"	8	Western India Veg. Prod.		682	3,000	Amalner.	
Delhi	9	Ganesh Flour Mills Co.	3,638	4,833	6,000	Delhi city.	*Started production in March 1947.
"	10	D. C. M. Vanaspathi Mfg. Co.	*1,938	7,720	7,500	"	
U. P.	11	Amrit Vanaspathi Co.	5,376	5,807	8,000	Ghaziabad.	
"	12	Vanaspathi Industries	3,732	3,418	7,600	"	
"	13	Modi Vanaspathi Mfg. Co.	11,294	11,492	13,300	Modinagar.	
"	14	Ganesh Flour Mills Co.	8,119	11,504	13,870	Kanpur.	
Bihar	15	Robee Industries Ltd.	3,337	3,844	4,960	Dubhainagar.	
Orissa	16	Tata Oil Mills Co.	196	580	1,200	Cochin (Telapuran).	
Madras	17	Mysoor Veg. Oil Prod.	723	603	1,500	Madras city.	
"	18	Mettur Chem. Ind. Industries Corp.	1,559	2,483	3,400	Madras city.	
West Bengal	19	Snowwhite Food Prod.	3,659	6,028	8,000	Calcutta City.	*Started production in July 1948.
"	20	Hindustan Dev. Corp.		792	7,500	"	*Started production in October 1948.
"	21	Kuan Products	"	911	7,500	"	
Mysoor State	22	Mysoor Veg. Prod.	928	1,310	1,800	Bengaluru.	
"	23	Devangam Vanaspathi and Veg. Oils	*1,116	914	3,000	Davangam.	*Started production in Feb. 1947.
Saurashtra	24	Jagdish Industries	4,642	2,464	6,000	Porbander.	
"	25	Morvi Veg. Prod.		1,487	3,000	Morvi.	*Started production in March 1948.
Baroda State	26	Ashwin Industries	2,025	2,277	6,000	Baroda.	
"	27	Alambic Chem. Works (Lily Oils)	743	285	6,000	"	
Total			93,904	129,663	224,330		

RESEARCH ON EFFECT OF VANASPATI ON HUMAN BEINGS

78. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that scientific research in regard to the effect of the use of vanaspati ghee on human beings is going on?

(b) By what time can the report of scientists engaged on this work be expected?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Donlatram: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The final report may be expected before the end of 1949.

STOPPING THE MANUFACTURE OF VANASPATI

79. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the 16th December, 1948 a Cow Conference was held at Jaipur under the Presidentship of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and a resolution banning hydrogenation of vegetable oils was unanimously passed?

(b) Are Government aware that the President of the Indian National Congress condemned the manufacture of vanaspati ghee in his presidential address at Jaipur?

(c) Are Government aware that the Committee for Preservation and Protection of Cattle has condemned the manufacture of vanaspati ghee as a very great obstacle to the protection and preservation of cows?

(d) Is it a fact that the Gau Sewa Sangh of Wardha has passed a resolution requesting Government to stop hydrogenation of vegetable oils in the interest of cow protection?

(e) What action have Government taken in respect of the public demand to stop the manufacture of vanaspati ghee?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Donlatram: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes. Government have received a memorandum from the Gau Sewa Sangh to this effect.

(e) The present policy of Government is not to encourage the expansion of the Vanaspati Industry beyond what Government were already committed to. Government have reserved their final decision about the future of the Vanaspati Oil Industry till they are in possession of conclusive evidence about its effect on the human health or other drawbacks of Vanaspati which are under investigation by a committee of Scientists. As regards the proposal to stop hydrogenation, the question will be considered from all points of view.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE FOR PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF CATTLE

80. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Committee for Preservation and Protection of Cattle has submitted its report and if so, on what date?

(b) Do Government propose to lay a copy of the report on the table of the House?

(c) Have Government taken any action on the recommendations of the Committee so far and if so, what action has been taken?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Donlatram: (a) Yes. The report was received on the 18th November, 1948.

(b) A copy of the report will be placed in the Library of the House as soon as printed copies of the same are received from the Press.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee have been forwarded to all the Provincial Governments, Local Administrations, States and States Unions for their views. The decision of the Government of India will be taken after the replies have been received from all of them.

RESTRICTIONS ON SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE

61. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what restrictions are in force against slaughter of cattle in the various provinces of India and when these restrictions were placed?

(b) How many cows, bullocks, she and he buffaloes and young stock were slaughtered in the cities of Calcutta, Howrah, Bombay and Madras in the slaughter houses in each month from 1st September, 1947 to 31st December, 1948?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter which appeared in the issue dated 9th January, 1949 of the *Hindustan* about the slaughter of cattle of good breed in big cities?

(d) What action are Government taking to stop the slaughter of such cattle?

(e) Is it a fact that cattle of good breed are taken from East Punjab and particularly from the districts of Hissar and Rohtak to Bombay and Calcutta and after one lactation are sent to the slaughter houses?

(f) How long has this question been before Government and what are the reasons for not taking action in the matter?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to Lala Raj Kanwar's Starred Question No. 100 on the 11th August, 1948.

(b) The information so far received is put on the table of the House.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (f). The question of prohibition of slaughter of cattle has been examined in detail by an Expert Committee whose recommendations have been communicated to the Provincial and State Governments. Further action will be taken on receipt of the views of the Provincial Governments.

(e) The Provincial Governments concerned are being consulted and on receipt full information will be furnished to the House.

STATEMENT

Statistics of cattle and buffaloes slaughtered in the slaughter houses in the city of Madras from September 1947 to December, 1948.

	Cows.	Bullocks.	Young stock.	He buffaloes.	She buffaloes.	Young stock.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
September, 1947	103	1,009		788	283	
October, "	107	1,005		860	148	
November, "	101	1,076		785	236	
December, "	109	1,104		830	234	
January, 1948	103	1,150		788	198	
February, "	100	985		685	178	
March, "	98	1,380		897	212	

		1	2	3	4	5	6
April,	1948	51	887	..	902	203	..
May,	"	54	864	..	909	197	..
June,	"	36	684	..	562	236	..
July,	"	43	753	..	930	258	..
August,	"	53	837	..	929	204	..
September,	"	48	1,229	..	807	172	..
October,	"	68	1,142	..	819	120	..
November,	"	68	1,047	..	1,015	106	..
December,	"	66	1,190	..	1,115	105	..
		1,184	11,931		13,731	3,103	

GAZETTED AND NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

82. Prof. Yashwant Rai: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (i) the number of Gazetted officers in his Ministry;
- (ii) the number of Superintendents;
- (iii) the number of Assistants; and
- (iv) the number of senior-grade and junior-grade clerks and stenographers?

The Honourable Shri K. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: The number of officers and staff on 1st March 1949 in the Ministry of Railways is as follows:

- (i) Gazetted officers—47.
- (ii) Superintendents—16.
- (iii) Assistants—166.
- (iv) Clerks and Stenographers—227.

GAZETTED AND NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

83. Prof. Yashwant Rai: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (i) the number of Gazetted officers in his Ministry;
- (ii) the number of Superintendents;
- (iii) the number of Assistants; and
- (iv) the number of senior-grade and junior-grade clerks and stenographers?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: (i) and (ii). The total number of Gazetted Officers in the Communication Ministry is 19 of whom six are superintendents.

(iii) 32.

(iv) Clerks, senior grade—Nil.

Clerks, junior grade—41.

Stenographers—11.

Tuesday
8th March, 1949

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART B—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS)

Official Report

Volume II, 1949

(24th February, 1949 to 18th March, 1949)

Fourth Session
OF THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE)

1949



सत्यमेव जयते

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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART II PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Tuesday, 8th March, 1949.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A. M.

THE GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS—*contd.*

SECOND STAGE—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: According to the arrangement, the House will today take up the Demands for Grants in respect of the External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry. I shall therefore place the Demands before the House.

DEMAND NO. 19—MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,17,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations'."

★ DEMAND NO. 89 — TRIBAL AREAS.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,00,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1950, in respect of 'Tribal Areas,'"

DEMAND NO. 40—EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,59,40,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1950, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru (Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is no doubt interested in the many aspects of our foreign policy and foreign affairs and how they affect India, and questions are often put on these various aspects. Probably, in the course of the debate today, attention will be drawn to many of these factors, but with your permission, Sir, and the indulgence of the House, I should like to deal with the general aspects of foreign affairs and foreign policy as they affect India and as we look at them rather than to say much about the smaller aspects of this main problem.

[Sri Jawaharlal Nehru]

Even before that, I should like to say something in the nature of a general survey not only of foreign affairs but of India itself. We have had in the course of the last few days a great deal of criticism of the Budget proposals and many of the failings of Government have been pointed out with, more or less, force. So far as I am concerned, I welcome every type of criticism and I do believe that it would be unfortunate if this House became just, shall I say, a static House, a subservient House, a House which just says "Yes" to anything that the Government might put forward. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and every member of this House has to be vigilant and the Government, of course, must be vigilant. But there is always a possible tendency for those in authority to become a little complacent. Therefore, I repeat that for my part I welcome the vigilance of honourable members of this House in drawing our attention to our failings or any other error or delinquency on the part of the Administration. I hope that that criticism is offered in good spirit, in a friendly way, and that it does not challenge the *bona fides* of the Government. Of course, if the *bona fides* of the Government are sought to be challenged, I do not mind that, provided it is clear that that is the issue.

I have felt in listening to these criticisms during these days or reading about them that perhaps we are concentrating too much on the trees and not looking at the whole wood. We are not looking at the whole picture of India today and what has happened in the course of the last eighteen months or so. It is rather important for us to keep this whole picture before us, or else any amount of attention to detail would not, help us, because it is that big picture that counts—not the small parts of it here and there. Look at this picture eighteen or nineteen months ago and look at it today. Look at it as far as you can, objectively—as if you were at a distance and saw this changing scene. I think if you could transport yourself to the period a year and a half ago and to all that was happening then and to all that has happened since then, I think you will find that there has been not only a great change in India, but that India has gone ahead in many ways in spite of all our difficulties and all the travails that we have passed through.

Speaking for myself—and the House realises that our Government, to some extent particularly myself—we have had to carry very heavy burdens and we have to carry them still and there are great difficulties ahead of us; nevertheless, in all honesty, I have a feeling of achievement, not failure and I look upon the future—and may I say I do not mean the distant future but the near future—with full confidence and feel a certain secret emotion at being privileged to participate in the service of India at this tremendous stage of her history.

May I say, as you have referred to the Budget proposals, that this Budget itself contains provisions, many of which may not perhaps be pleasing to some members, may be we might have done better here and there, but the Budget itself, I think, is a sign of our strength and the strength of the nation. (Hear, hear.) I think that the House and the country will see that the care and foresight given to this Budget by our Finance Minister will be paid in full measure in the months and years to come. We have proceeded cautiously, because, frankly speaking, we dare not take risks with this great trust we have got. Many a thing that we would like to do we have refrained from doing, because we cannot gamble with India's future or India's present. It is too serious a matter for us to go ahead even with our own theories or ideas on the subject, if there is any risk or danger involved in them. So we have

proceeded cautiously. It may be that somewhat quicker results might come to us if we were a little more dashing in this matter, but I personally entirely agree with this cautious approach at this present critical time, and apart from any small matters here and there. I should like to pay my tribute to my colleague, the Finance Minister, for the courage and vision and high ability with which he has tackled our problems.

The Indian Union is an infant State, an infant free State, a year and a half old, but remember that India is not an infant country. India is a very ancient country with millennia of history behind her,—history in which she has played a vital part not only within her own vast boundaries but in the world and in Asia in particular. India now, in this last year or more, emerges again in the main trend of human affairs.

Now, that is something of great historical significance. India I said. I could have said that Asia emerges in this main trend of history. Asia, in the long millennia of history, has played a very important part. So has India, of course, but during the last two hundred years or so, certain developments of science and technology in Europe, and America a little later, led to Asia coming under the domination of Europe and to a restriction of her activities in the world at large. She became confined and restricted. Various changes took place internally in India and in Asia during this period. But, generally speaking, India and other countries of Asia were under this political and economic domination of Europe. Now, that period and that epoch has ended and India now comes I think into the forefront in national affairs and world events.

One of the major questions of the day is the readjustment of the relations of Asia and Europe. When we talk of Asia, remember that India, not because of my ambition of ours, but because of the force of circumstances, because of geography, because of history and because of so many other things—inevitably has to play a very important part in Asia. And not only that; India becomes a kind of meeting ground of various trends and forces and a meeting ground between what might roughly be called the East and West.

Look at the map. If you have to consider any question affecting the Middle East, India comes into the picture inevitably; if you have to consider any question concerning South-East Asia, you cannot do so without India. So also about the Far East. So, while the Middle East may not be directly connected with South-East Asia, both are connected with India. So, even if you think in terms of regional organisations in Asia, you may have to keep in touch with the other regions. And whatever regions you may have in mind, India cannot be ignored her important part. So India plays a very important part in Asia.

Now, I said, one of the major questions of the day is the re-adjustment of the relations between Asia and Europe. In the past, especially by virtue of her economic and political domination, the West ignored Asia, or at any rate did not give her the weight that was due to her. Asia was really given a back seat and one unfortunate result of it was that even the statesmen did not recognise the changes that were taking place. There is I believe a considerable recognition at this stage, but it is not enough yet. Even in the Councils of the United Nations, the problems of Asia, the outlook of Asia, the approach of Asia have failed to evoke the enthusiasm that they should. There are many ways of distinguishing between what may be called the approach of Asia and the approach of Europe. Asia today is primarily concerned with what may be called the immediate human problems. In each country of Asia—under-developed countries more or less—the main problem is the problem of food

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of cloth, of education, of health. We are concerned with these problems. We are not directly concerned with problems of power-politics. Some of us, in our minds, may perhaps think of that. Europe, on the other hand, also is concerned with these problems no doubt in the devastated regions. Europe has got a legacy of conflicts of power and of problems which come from the possession of power. They have the fear of losing that power and the fear of somebody else getting greater power and attacking one country or the other. So that the European approach is a legacy of the past conflicts of Europe. It is no good blaming this country or that country for that. It is a legacy and the consequences of the past conflicts of Europe—Europe having been the dominating continent in the world, quarrelling sometimes within its own area for the domination of the world. Well, that domination is largely gone. That legacy of conflict remains in Europe.

Sir, I do not mean to say that we in Asia are in any way superior ethically or morally to the people of Europe. In some ways I imagine we are worse off. There is a legacy in Europe of conflict. In Asia at the present moment at least there is no such legacy. The countries of Asia may have their quarrels with their neighbours here and there, but there is no basic legacy of conflict such as the countries of Europe possess. Now, that is a very great advantage for Asia and it would be folly in the extreme for the countries of Asia and India to be dragged in the wake of the conflicts in Europe. We might note that the world progressively tends to become one—one in peace and it is likely to be one, in a sense, in war. No man can say that any country can remain apart when there is any major conflagration. But still one can direct one's policy towards avoiding this conflict and being entangled in it.

So the point I wish the House to remember is this. First of all, this emergence of India in world affairs is something of major consequence in world history, not because we are giant figures. We who happen to be in the Government of India or in this House are men of relatively small stature. But it has been given to us to work at a time when India is becoming a great giant again. So because of that, in spite of our own smallness, we have to work for great causes and perhaps elevating ourselves in the process.

When India became independent a year and a half ago, we chose the time, or if you like, fate and circumstance chose the time for us, which was one of exceeding difficulty. There were the damages and the consequences of the last great war. And immediately we were independent, there were volcanic upheavals in India. It would have been difficult enough for us if there had been complete peace in India to face all the problems that had accumulated during the period of our arrested growth in the past. But added to that came new problems of colossal magnitude. How we faced them the House remembers, and it will be for history to record whether we failed completely or we succeeded or succeeded partially. Anyhow we survived and that, at any rate, was some success. Anyhow we survived and made good in many ways, apart from mere survival. And gradually we have overcome those problems and gradually we have made of India a single, political unit. And may I point out to this House that the political unit that is India today is the largest political unit, in terms of population, in the world? But population and numbers do not count, it is quality that counts. I would say further that from the point of view of our potential resources and our capacity to use those potential resources, we are also potentially the biggest unit in the World. I say that not in any spirit of vain glory but let us recognise the huge trust we have in our keeping and let us then think of it in terms of the great burden and the great responsibility upon us and not in smaller terms. Now this is the background.

Shall I put to you another background? That was this. We, the great majority of the members of this House and vast numbers of people in this country have spent our lives in what might be called a revolutionary activity, in conflicts with authority. We are bred up in that tradition of revolution etc. and now we sit in the seats of authority and have to deal with problems, difficult problems. That adjustment is not an easy adjustment at any time for anyone, more especially now. Then again, not only were we revolutionaries and agitators and breakers of many things, but we were bred up in a high tradition under a great man. That tradition was an ethical tradition, a moral tradition and at the same time an application of these ethical and moral doctrines to practical politics. That great man placed before us a technique of action which was unique in the world, which combined political activity and political conflict and a struggle for freedom with certain moral and ethical principles. Now I dare not say that any of us, not all of us, lived up to those ethical and moral principles but I do dare say that in the course of the past 80 years or so, all of us in smaller or greater degree, and the country itself in smaller or greater measure, was affected by those ethical and moral doctrines of the Great Master and Leader. And now with that idealism and ethical background we faced practical problems and it becomes an exceedingly difficult thing to apply that particular doctrine to the solution of these problems. That is a conflict which individuals and groups and nations have often had to face. It came to us in very peculiar circumstances and it was intensified by those circumstances and so there has been this travail of the spirit in most of us.

We have often thought of Gandhiji and his great doctrine, of his great message and while we praised it often enough, we felt 'Are we hypocrites, talking about that and being unable to live up to it. Are we deluding ourselves and the world?' Because if we were hypocrites, then surely our future was dark. We may be hypocritical about the small things of life but it is a dangerous thing to be hypocritical about the great things of life. And it would have been the greatest tragedy if we exploited the name and prestige of our great leader, took shelter under it and denied in our hearts, in our activities, the message that he had brought to this country and the world. So we have had these conflicts in our minds and those conflicts continue and perhaps there is no final solution of those conflicts except to try continually to bridge the gulf between that idealism and that practice which is forced down upon us by circumstances. For after all if we are in charge of any work, if we are in seats of authority and responsibility to face a particular situation, we can only do so, on the one hand according to the way that we think will meet that situation. We cannot and I am quite positive that our great leader would not have had us function as blind automatons just carrying the same thing which he had said without reference to change in events. On the other hand, we have to keep in mind those very ideals to which we have pledged ourselves so often. There is always a great difficulty between the approach to a problem of a Prophet and of a Politician. We had the combination of a Prophet and a great Statesman but then we are not Prophets nor are we very great, possibly, in our statesmanship and so we cannot be judged by that high standard. All we can say is that we should do our utmost to live up as far as we can to that standard but always judging a problem by the lights of our own intelligence, otherwise we will fail. There is this grave danger, on the one hand of denying the message of the Prophet, on the other of blindly following it and missing all its vitality. Both happen. By just repeating some phrase or dogma without realising what the truth lay behind it and thus perhaps killing the spirit of the Prophet even more than by denying that message. We have therefore to steer through these.

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Then a Politician or statesman, call him what you will, has to deal not only with the truth but with men's receptivity of that truth because if there is not sufficient receptivity of it from the politician's or statesman's point of view, that truth is thrown into the wilderness till minds are ripe for it. And certainly a statesman cannot function and in a democratic age much less can he function unless he can make people believe in that truth. So unfortunately but inevitably compromises have to take place from time to time. You cannot do without compromises but a compromise is a bad compromise if it is opportunist in the sense that it is not always aiming at the truth. It may be a good compromise if it is always looking at that truth and trying to take you there. So in the past year and a half we have faced these difficult problems and the difficulty has been obvious enough to many but perhaps not many have thought of this travail of the spirit, under which we suffered all the time; and this fear that we are becoming too much slaves of events, carried away by them, too much opportunists, and it may indeed be very difficult to draw the line. So all we can do is to pull ourselves back occasionally, look at our activities and examine them from that high standard which was laid down and try to remain as near to it as possible.

It was a curious thing that we who carried on the struggle for freedom in a non-violent and peaceful way should immediately have to be confronted with violence in its intensest form, civil violence as well as, what may be called, military violence, that we should have to undertake a kind of war in a part of the country. The whole thing seemed to be a complete upset of all that we stood for; and yet circumstances were such that I am quite convinced that we had no other way, and that the way we took was the right one.

May I mention to the House that towards the end of October 1947, when this question of Kashmir suddenly came upon us, when we heard that raiders had come into Kashmir and were destroying and looting, it was a very difficult question for us to decide. It was difficult enough from the military point of view, because we were isolated and far away, and the sending of arms or troops by air was no light undertaking from the purely military point of view. But the real difficulty before us arose from inside, it was a difficulty of the spirit. What will this land us in? That was the difficulty. On the one hand there was the powerful call of the people of Kashmir, those people who were being attacked and destroyed. We could not say "No" to them. On the other hand we did not quite know where it would lead us. And in that difficulty of the spirit I went—as I often did—to Mahatma Gandhi, for his advice. It was not natural for him to give advice about military matters. What did he know about them? His struggles were struggles of the spirit. But listening to me, if I may with all respect say so, he did not say "No" to the course of action that I proposed. He saw that a government as we were, had to follow its duty even in the military line, when certain circumstances arose. And throughout those few months, before he was taken away from us, I conferred with him on many an occasion about Kashmir, and it was a great happiness to me that I had his blessings in the steps we took.

So, looking back on this year and a half, we have built up India as a single organized political unit, and in this, as the House knows, my respected colleague, the Deputy Prime Minister, has played a supremely vital part. We have some little further to go in that matter. But I hope those further problems also will be settled very soon. There is the problem of Kashmir. There are the problems of what are called foreign possessions in India,

Pondicherry, Chandernagore, Goa, and the rest. And all along we have stated that we want a peaceful and co-operative solution in regard to these foreign possessions. But it is quite clear that there is only one future for these possessions, and that is complete integration with India. We are prepared to wait a little for it, to avoid conflict etc. We do not want that, we want peaceful solutions of these and other problems. But it is an inconceivable thing that in this new, resurgent India, bits of territory should belong to powers far away. So we are trying to the best of our ability to find a peaceful solution of these problems.

May I point out another thing? The House, very rightly is vigilant about avoidance of waste, about growth in our administrative services etc. There is an Economy Committee sitting, and there are other committees considering this problem. That is right. But please remember that the Government of India which has been functioning since the 15th August, 1947 has had to face many other problems than any other Government of India had to face previously. First of all, the previous governments, although they were endowed with certain social objectives, they did not think of them as primary functions, or of the same importance as we necessarily must. Secondly, take this field of foreign affairs about which I am speaking. There were no foreign affairs then. It has been an entirely new adventure for us, building up our foreign and international position. This has meant necessarily additions to our staff here and in foreign countries, large additions and large expenditure of money. It may be that some economy is possible; but that should be considered and looked into. But you cannot be an independent nation, and not have those foreign relations—the two are incommensurable. Indians are spread out all over the world. We have to look after their interests. Apart from Indians living in other countries, we have various interests, trade interests and other interests. We have to buy things. We have to sell things. It is quite impossible for any independent country, more especially a great and big country like India, to carry on its normal existence without these foreign relations, with foreign establishments, foreign embassies, legations, trade missions and the like.

I mention this because often enough there is criticism of our spreading out all over the world with our foreign embassies etc. It is perhaps thought that this is just a gesture to satisfy our own vanity. And I am told, sometimes, that I have got some kind of a bee in my bonnet; that I forget the troubles in India, and I do not consider them, our domestic problems, that I think only of sending ambassadors from Timbuktu to Peru. Well, I should like the House to consider this matter and be quite clear about it, because to refer to Timbuktu and Peru in this connection does not appear to me to be the height of wisdom. It shows quite an extraordinary lack of appreciation of what India is and what internally and domestically India requires. If we do not go out and have our foreign establishments, somebody will have to look after our interests. Who is that somebody? Are we going to ask England to look after our foreign interests in other countries as Pakistan has done in many countries? Is that the type of independence that we imagine? What does independence consist of? It consists fundamentally and basically of foreign relations. That is the test of independence. All else is local autonomy. Once foreign relations go out of your hand, into the charge of somebody else, to that extent and in that measure, you are not independent. So, if we are an independent nation, we must have foreign relations. In fact, we cannot carry on without them. If we had foreign relations we have to have the establishment necessary to carry on those foreign relations. And foreign relations though they involve

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trade, business etc. are not like opening a branch of a business or firm, as sometimes some of our business magnates seem to imagine. It is a very intricate and very difficult business dealing with the psychology of human beings, the psychology of nations, with their background and culture—linguistic and so on and so forth. It is an exceedingly difficult business—the relationship between nations. So we have rather rapidly developed our Foreign Service from scratch. It has been a difficult business and it would be absurd for me to say that everything we have done in the development of our Foreign Service has been entirely to my satisfaction. But I would like to say from the experience I have gathered during the last eighteen months or so, that we have done on the whole remarkably well and that the test—the one test of that of course—is the status of India in the eyes of the world. That is a good test. Individuals may have erred here and there. But ultimately as the final result—does our foreign policy yield results or not? Does it deliver the goods or not? I think it has delivered the goods to some extent—to a considerable extent: indeed to a surprising extent. I should like to express my high appreciation here in this House of the work of many of our Ambassadors and Ministers abroad and of the work of our Delegations to the United Nations: and allow me to inform the House that the reputation of India in the United Nations Assemblies is very high.

Our three chief foreign missions are, as the House knows, in London, in Washington and in Moscow. There have been criticisms about relatively small matters. It may be about appointments and the like. I will not go into them. But I should like to tell the House, speaking always as Foreign Minister, that I would welcome any enquiry which is brought to me and I shall either enquire into it or give the information that I have in my possession to any Member of the House at any time. There are bound to be many such things deserving enquiry, arising out of a vast establishment. I think these principal missions of ours in London, Washington and Moscow have done remarkably well. In China we have had to face very difficult situations and our Embassy there has faced them with great credit. In Paris (France), we have had a succession of misfortunes due to many causes, but chiefly that we have hardly had any place to stay in for a year. There is no proper place and they have lived in very undesirable quarters. On the whole, we have succeeded in building up our Foreign Service in a very short time with considerable success. Naturally, we shall go on trying to improve it.

Then the main question that troubles this House often enough is the position of Indians abroad. Now that question has to be viewed in a different light from what it used to be in the past. In the past our main effort was to get the British Colonial Office to interest itself in bettering the conditions of Indians abroad. Now we as an independent nation have to deal with other independent nations. Naturally, we try to do our best. I believe the conditions of Indians abroad are being bettered, but the main thing that has happened is this, that the status of Indians abroad in the eyes of the world has gone up tremendously. Naturally, the coming of freedom and the independence of India—that in itself helps in bettering their conditions.

The problems we have to face in world affairs at the present moment, bear a great deal of relation to the conflicts that are going on. We have stated repeatedly that our foreign policy is one to keep apart from big blocs of nations—rival blocs—and to be friendly to all countries and not become entangled in any alliances, military or other that might drag us into any possible conflict. Some people have criticised us and suggested to us that that is not a good enough policy: that we are losing what we might get by a closer association or alliance. Others, on the other hand, have criticised us by saying that while we say one thing we act secretly or otherwise in another

way. It is a little difficult, of course, to give an answer to an imputation of motives, but as a matter of fact, we have very strictly followed that policy of not getting entangled in any kind of commitment—certainly not military—the question does not arise—with any other power or group of powers, and we propose to adhere to that policy, because we are quite convinced that that is the only possible policy for us at present and in the future. That does not, on the other hand, involve any lack of close relationships with other countries.

The House will remember that sometime back I mentioned the question of India's possible relationships with the Commonwealth and I informed the House of the broad lines of our approach to this problem, and I gathered that the House agreed with that in spite of possibly some individual Members not agreeing with it. Subsequently, the question was considered by the National Congress at its Jaipur Session and in broad lines they also laid down the policy to be pursued. So far as we are concerned, we propose strictly to adhere to those directions. Of course changing circumstances have to be understood and interpreted in different ways, but the broad lines of policy have been laid down and the broad lines of policy are those:

That India will naturally and inevitably in the course of a few months, may be, become an Independent Republic.

That in our external, internal or domestic policy, in our political policy, or in our economic policy, we do not propose to accept anything that involves in the slightest degree dependence on any other authority.

Subject to that we are prepared to associate ourselves with other countries in a friendly way. We are associated today in the United Nations with a great number of countries in the world. Anything else that we might do, will naturally have to be something that does not go against our association with the United Nations—that is within its structure. We have been associated with the Commonwealth that used to be called the British Commonwealth of Nations in the past in a way which was entirely unsatisfactory and we fought to get out of it, until we have completely achieved our objective in regard to independence. In practice and in theory also we shall achieve it completely and fully in the course of the next few months. Now it is only in terms of independent nations co-operating together that we can consider the problem of our association with the Commonwealth. There may be, as some people have suggested, alliances with this or that nation. Alliances usually involve military and other commitments and they are more binding. Other forms of association which do not bind in this manner, but which help in bringing together nations for the purpose of consultation and where necessary of co-operation are therefore far more preferable than any form of alliance which does bind. What the outcome may be I do not know. As soon as I know I shall inform the House but what I am placing before the House today is this: that our policy in regard to this matter is going to be strictly determined by the Jaipur Congress resolution.

Recently there was a conference on Indonesia, held at India's instance in New Delhi and many countries from Asia came there besides Egypt, Ethiopia, Australia and New Zealand. That conference forcibly brought several matters before the world's eye and at that conference one of the resolutions passed was that we should explore methods of closer co-operation. We are pursuing that line of enquiry and perhaps in the course of a month or two or perhaps more we may have some more definite results to consider: possibly we might have another conference to consider the possible lines of co-operation. Again, that co-operation can only be the co-operation of independent nations without the least commitment of any to the other. But it is a fact that there are so many matters in common between us that it is helpful for us to co-operate with one another. We have not yet decided as to what the region of co-operation might

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be, because, as I said a little while ago, India is interested in several regions of Asia: whether all should be grouped together or separately, I do not know. That is for us to consider together as to what is more feasible but in any event two facts have to be borne in mind. One is that whatever structure of co-operation we might build up will be entirely within the scope of the Charter of the United Nations. Secondly, there will be no binding covenants in it but largely one of consultation and co-operation that naturally flow from common interests. So our policy will continue to be not only to keep apart from power alignments but trying to make friendly co-operation possible. Fortunately we enter upon our independence as a country with no hostile background in regard to any country. We are friendly to all countries. Our hostility during the last 200 years was mainly directed towards the dominating power here and because of India's independence that hostility has largely vanished, though it may survive in some people's minds, but that is not important. So that we approach the whole world on a friendly basis and there is no reason why we should put ourselves at a disadvantage, if I may say so, of becoming unfriendly to any group. I think that India has a vital role to play in world affairs.

The various ideologies that confront the world today, the various 'isms' which threaten conflict repeatedly may have a great deal I think to commend themselves but all of them have been derived, if I may say so, from the background of Europe. Well, the background of Europe is not something apart from the background of the world and there is much in the background of Europe which is present in India or in other countries. Nevertheless, it is true that the background of Europe is not completely the background of India or the world and there is absolutely no reason why we should be asked to choose between this ideology or the other *in toto*. India is a country with a tremendous vitality which it has shown through its history: it has often enough imposed its own cultural pattern on other countries not by force of arms but by the strength of her vitality, culture and civilization. There is no reason why we should give up our way of doing things, our way of considering things, simply because of some particular ideology which emanates from Europe. I have no doubt at all that we have to learn a great deal from Europe and America and I think that we should keep our eyes and ears completely open. We should be flexible in mind and we should be receptive: but I have also no doubt at all that we should not allow ourselves, if I may use the words of Gandhiji, we must not allow any wind from anywhere to sweep us off our feet.

So we should approach these problems, whether domestic or international problems, in our own way. If by any chance we align ourselves definitely with one power group we may perhaps from one point of view do some good but I have not the shadow of a doubt that from a larger point of view, not only of India but of world peace, it will do harm. Because then we lose that tremendous vantage ground that we have of using such influence as we possess—and that influence is going to grow from year to year—in the cause of world peace.

What are we interested in world affairs for? We seek no dominion over any country. We do not wish to interfere in the affairs of any country, domestic or other. Our main stake in world affairs is peace: our main stake in world affairs is to see that there is racial equality: our main stake in world affairs is that people who are still subjugated should be free. For the rest we do not desire to interfere in world affairs and we do not desire that other people too should interfere in our affairs. If, however, there is interference with us, whether military, political or economic, we shall resist it.

So it is with this friendly approach that we look at the world. It is true that in doing so we are often likely to be misunderstood, because passions have been roused all over the world and sometimes each country thinks that if you are not completely lined up with it you are its enemy or opponent. It is unfortunate if people think so: we cannot help it. We may sometimes even lose some petty advantage, because of this fear and suspicion in other people's minds. But even now other countries are beginning to realise that we are playing an independent role: that we are not tied up to anybody, that we consider problems dispassionately and objectively, in so far as we can judge them on the merits and not from that other point of view, which is becoming very common, that is to say from the point of view of a certain manoeuvring for a possible future war. That is the point of view from which problems are dealt with today.

If there is a future war what should be done now to better our position or to get this territory or this country on our side and prevent it from going to the other side? It is not for me to criticize other nations and their policies. But I just do not see why India should function in that way or should become a part of this world manoeuvring that is going on. So we have to keep apart from that and at the same time develop the closest relations with all those countries. It so happens that because of history and chance our relations—economic and trade—are far greater with some countries than with others. Well, we will continue then always seeing that they do not come in the way of our growth. Do not hamper us in our progress.

The supreme question that one has to face today in the world is how can we avoid a world war? Some people seem to think that it is unavoidable and therefore they prepare for it and prepare for it not only in a military sense but in a psychological sense and thereby actually bring the war nearer. Personally I think that is a very wrong and a very dangerous thing to do. Of course no country dare take things for granted and not prepare for possible contingencies. We in India must be prepared for any possible danger to our freedom and our existence. That is so. But to think in terms of the inevitability of world war is dangerous thinking. I should like this House and the country to appreciate what a world war means, what it is likely to mean. It just does not matter who wins in the world war because it will mean such utter catastrophe that for a generation or more everything that we stand for in the way of progress and advancement of humanity will be put an end to. That is a terrible thing to contemplate and everything should be done to avoid this catastrophe. If it is unavoidable—of course we do not run away from anything because we are afraid of it—we have to face it. I feel that India can play a big part, and may be an effective part, in helping in the avoidance of war. Therefore it becomes all the more necessary that India should not be lined up with any group of powers which for various reasons are in a sense full of fear of war and prepare for war. That is the main approach of our foreign policy and I am glad to say that I believe that it is more and more appreciated.

We are at the present moment on friendly terms with all countries. With our neighbours—with Pakistan I think the situation is improving from day to day. It is much better than it was a few months ago; I hope it will improve more. With Afghanistan and Nepal—although Afghanistan is not our immediate neighbour now: anyhow it has been our neighbour—we are on the friendliest terms with them. With other countries in Asia and in Europe our relations are getting closer and closer, our trade is expanding and so on and so forth. We should utilise this position I think in the United Nations and elsewhere to fulfil the cause of peace, and it is possible that a number of other

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countries which are not happy at the prospect of war may also support the attitude that India might take up when occasion arises in regard to it. We have dealt with questions in the United Nations as individual 'separate questions,—for instance, in regard to Korea, in regard to Palestine, in regard to some other matters too, and we have displeased people because we have dealt with individual questions and gave our opinion on the merits. Of course the merits cannot be divorced from various other possible consequences. I think people have realized often enough that the advice that India gave and which was not accepted then was the right advice and the trouble would have been far less if the advice had been accepted then.

There are many aspects of this question which I can speak about, but I have already taken a great deal of the time of the House. I would beg the House to look upon the matter from this wider point of view that I have placed before it, that is the emergence of India and Asia into this trend of human affairs, the inevitability of India playing an important part by virtue of her tremendous potential, by virtue of the fact that she is the biggest political unit in terms of population today and is likely to be in terms of her resources also. She is going to play that part. If we have to play that part we have to look upon this question from this bigger point of view and not from the small difficulties and problems that may face us and that part must essentially be one of promoting peace and freedom in the world, of removing racial inequalities.

And may I in this connection say that it has been a matter of deep grief to us to learn of the racial riots that took place at Durban in South Africa? I do not wish to say much in regard to that except that if racialism is encouraged anywhere, it is bound to yield such trouble. But it is a matter of deep grief to us that Indians and Africans should be involved in such rioting. It has been, not today but over years past, our definite instructions to our envoys in Africa and elsewhere that we do not want Indians to have any special interests at the cost of the Africans anywhere. We have impressed upon them to co-operate with the Africans in gaining the freedom of those Africans and we have repeated these instructions again. I hope that after this unfortunate experience of Durban, Indians and Africans will come together again. Indeed there is evidence from East Africa and elsewhere of a great measure of co-operation between Indians and Africans.

So I hope that this House and this country will approve of the general lines of policy that I have suggested and indicate that it is India's desire to play this important part in favour of world peace and thereby perhaps help in avoiding that supreme catastrophe, that is, a world war.

Mr. Speaker: If the House is agreeable, instead of having an unfinished speech for five minutes, I think we may now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 P.M.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

Seth Govind Das (C.P. and Berar: General): The Honourable the Prime Minister today reminded us that our country is an ancient country. No doubt, Sir, it is an ancient country with an ancient history, with an ancient civilisation and with an ancient culture. On account of the Honourable the Prime Minister reminding us, I suddenly remembered the days of our great emperor

Asoka. In his days, Sir, we had relations with various countries and today I am glad to find that after our freedom we are again developing such relations. (An Honourable Member: 'Not the empire!') Not the empire. Even at that time of Asoka we had cultural relations; we had no idea of winning any country even at that time. We want to develop the same sort of cultural relations today after India has become free.

Fast communications have made this world very small. Every country has come closer to one another and therefore the importance of international relations, and importance of international policy has become very great. After we achieved freedom our prestige has increased in the world. On account of the methods which we used for achieving our freedom, it has increased still more and after achieving our freedom the way in which we dealt with various problems—the latest of them being the problem of Indonesia—our prestige increased still further. Much depends upon the policy which we shall follow in future. It should be based no doubt on ethical and moral standards and if it is based on ethical and moral standards we shall consider nothing but human problems. Every country considers these human problems, but most of them consider them only with respect to their nationals. Our motto had been—“*Atmavat sarva bhuteshu*”,—and on account of this motto we were pledged to *vishva-prema*, universal love. Our master taught us the same even in these days of bloodshed.

The honourable the Prime Minister has rightly said that today the greatest problem is the readjustment of the relations of Asia and Europe. I am sure that if we follow the policy which we have followed so far, we shall be able to readjust the relations of Asia and Europe—not only the relations of Asia and Europe but of the whole world. Compromises are necessary. Even in the philosophy of *satyagraha* there is compromise—how many times Mahatma Gandhi made compromises with the British Government? But no compromise should be made sacrificing our objectives, and therefore the two declarations which the honourable the Prime Minister made today, one with respect to our foreign possessions and the other with respect to our relations with Commonwealth countries, will be hailed throughout the country. He rightly said that we do not want to force those possessions to join our territory but at the same time it is but natural for them, if not today then tomorrow, if not tomorrow then the day after, to join us. And as far as the friendship between the Commonwealth countries is concerned, we have to keep intact the decision which we have made in our Constituent Assembly that India is going to remain a Sovereign Republic. We have done right in not joining any of the blocs in the U.N.O. and I think we should pursue the same policy.

The honourable the Prime Minister said something with respect to Indians abroad. It has been a subject in which I am interested for the last 25 years. He said the status of our brethren abroad has increased. On account of our independence it has, I admit; but if we see the real conditions there we find that there has been no improvement in the material conditions there. I shall give examples only of two countries because I have very few minutes at my disposal. I shall first deal with East Africa. As far as East Africa is concerned, we find that the inter-territorial organisation of the four colonies there—that is Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda and Zanzibar—has come into existence. The whites were important in Kenya, but on account of this Inter-Territorial Organisation, they have become important even in Tanganyika, Uganda and Zanzibar, where they are in a microscopic minority. East Africa is a country with which we had oldest relations and new immigration Acts have been passed there barring our immigration altogether. Another trouble has

[Seth Govind Das]

sprung up there. That is communal trouble and on account of some communal feelings in our community there, the whites took advantage of it. They exploited those feelings and wanted to have separate electorates in Kenya. The Government of India pressed for not having separate electorates and though separate electorates have not come into existence, yet in Kenya Legislature, reservation of seats has been made and there are three seats for non-Muslims and two for Muslims. In South Africa things are much worse than they ever were. The Durban riots were a very sad event and it is feared that the Commission which has been appointed by the Union Government might whitewash the whole affair.

Thus we see that though our status might have gone up in the Commonwealth countries, the condition of Indians in these countries is practically the same. In Mauritius, Fiji and Trinidad there are no problems today, but in Burma, in Ceylon and in Malaya also we have to face these problems. In Malaya the trade unions are under communist influence and that is the reason for the trouble there. In Burma, the question of nationalisation of land has been taken up. Of course, we cannot oppose it on principle, because we ourselves are abolishing the *Zamindari* system; but we have to see that adequate or at least reasonable compensation is given to the persons who own that land. Unfortunately, in Ceylon, we have not the same cordial relations with the indigenous population as we used to have. To me it appears that the only solution of the problems of Indians abroad is that we should never fight there for any exclusive rights for ourselves or any privilege for ourselves. We should merge our interests with those of the indigenous population there and we should make a united front with them against these whites who have usurped the rights of all.

In conclusion, I wish to say that India has been an idealistic country. The honourable the Prime Minister said that we have much to learn from Europe and America and I say that Europe and America have also much to learn from us. If we stick to our ideals, if our Government, if our Embassies abroad, stick to those ideals, ideals which have come down to us from times immemorial, ideals which our masters have taught us, I am sure that it will not be this country which would be learning much from Europe and America but it would be Europe and America which will be learning something from us. I congratulate the honourable the Prime Minister for all that he has been doing since he has become our Foreign Minister and I hope that if we go on doing what we have done in the last eighteen months, our country will have a unique place in the international world.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras : General): I am glad to say that most of the members in this House are very much in agreement with the general line of foreign policy that our Prime Minister has been pursuing and the line that he has taken also in the statement he has made to us this morning.

To take up the point that my honourable friend Seth Govind Das has just now raised, I am glad that he has also declared himself in favour of the principle that Indian nationals in these various countries abroad should not fight for any exclusive rights for themselves, and on the other hand, they should make common cause with the peoples of those countries. It is a very important statement that he has made, in that he has interested himself in their cause and he has developed wide contacts among Indians abroad. But unfortunately, our nationals abroad do not seem to be pursuing such a policy in their own relations with the local nationals. Except for Kenya and may be in one or two other places in West Indies etc. our nationals seem to have got into certain privileged positions and are unwilling to take into partnership the local

nationals. Only recently, we were told that in South Africa, even in running the buses when the Negroes wanted a share in it, our friends were not willing to make any concessions and I have been receiving from time to time a number of complaints from the Negro nationals and their leaders, especially in Kenya, Uganda and Nyasaland about our own attitude. Therefore, they have expressed the hope that we in India anyhow will not be taking up the same attitude that those Indian traders are taking up in those countries. It is as well that our Commonwealth Department makes it clear in unmistakable terms to these nationals abroad that they cannot expect any support from our Government if they were to pursue this policy of trying to get concessions from the whites and not yielding anything at all to local peoples and not trying to take them into comradely relationship and partnership.

Then, coming to what our Leader of the House has said this morning, I have felt that he was not quite as seriously conscious of the actual existence of a cold war, of an ideological war, of an economic war, that is today going on in different parts of the world, that is being waged by two great nations and two great Powers backed as they are by their own satellite countries,—United States on the one side, and the U.S.S.R. on the other. If you go to Yugoslavia you find that Marshal Tito is complaining of economic non-cooperation from Stalin. If you go to Czechoslovakia, you find a similar complaint being made against U.S.A. If you go to the Scandinavian countries, similar complaint is being made against Russia. Coming to the Asian continent, we find that in a number of countries including Indo-China and Burma, Russia has been playing a role which is not very honourable to herself or useful to the world cause of peace. It is true that the hand of either the United States or the U.S.S.R. is not so easily discernable in what is happening in all these countries; but nevertheless their agencies are at work in order to queer the pitch and to create confusion and create economic unsettlement. In between these two great Powers comes Great Britain together with her friends in Western Europe. They are still interested in imperialism. They are still anxious to retain not only their Asiatic possessions, but also to develop their interests in African possessions. They are bent upon carrying on a policy of exploitation.

What is happening in Malaya is something which should upset many minds. It is true that in Malaya the Communist party has been playing a role which is really destructive. It has taken to violent means and violent ways and necessarily its guerilla warfare has to be put down by legitimate means including the use of armed forces. But if such steps had been taken by a National Government of Malaya it would have been possible for the rest of the world to appreciate. But when British Empire has had to take this step, necessarily the position of people like us who have been so closely associated with the Commonwealth becomes very difficult to justify. Even in Africa, not to speak of South Africa, the role that the British Government has been playing is not very honourable and, in regard to Indonesia, the attitude taken up by Great Britain is certainly objectionable. It is under these circumstances that we have to make up our minds whether we can agree not only to be friends with Great Britain but also to be one of the partners in the Commonwealth. Our position in the Commonwealth will certainly become stronger and more useful in advancing the cause of the world, if Great Britain were to make up her mind to shed imperialism and give freedom to all these people and help them to establish strong, powerful and stable national governments. Until that happy day dawns, I am afraid the position that India will be taking up in the Commonwealth is likely to be the butt of criticism, as well as talks on the part of the various other countries. That is where the softest or the weakest point lies so far as our foreign policy is concerned.

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

Then, the United States of America has been asking the rest of the world to believe in her democratic professions. But is she fully democratic? That is where doubts arise. Has she been pursuing a policy of democracy, looking at the whole world as one unit, treating every country as equal to every other country and treating every people as equal to every other people, deserving of equal consideration, help, assistance and *camaraderie*? The answer is in the negative. She has been trying to help western European nations. Why? Is it only to help them to rehabilitate themselves after the war? Not only that; it is also to save them from the advancing tentacles of totalitarian monsters that are raising their heads all over the world. Very well. If she is right in doing that, then why is it she has played such a disastrous role in China? She had been blowing hot and cold with regard to that country. She had been giving false hopes to Marshal Chiang Kai Shaik and he had been pursuing a line in the hope that he would get help. But where is he today? When he became very badly in need of American help, they refused him that help and left him in the lurch with the result that the poor Marshal has been obliged to flee his own country. Does she want India and other countries also to pursue the same disastrous policy and come to a disastrous end? These are the questions that America has to answer. These are the questions also that our own Foreign Department has got to place before itself in its dealings with America and our own friends.

If the peoples of the world are to be saved from totalitarianism, they have got to be quite clear what they mean by totalitarianism. Communism is one brand, Sovietism is another, capitalism and imperialism are a third. We do not want to have anything to do with these three. But nevertheless, if these people are to be saved and helped to stand on their own feet, some help is needed.

We are told that the world is one in prosperity as well as in poverty. But what do we see? There is this prosperous country of America and there are the poorest people on the continents of Africa and Asia. Is it possible for these two parts of the world to feel in one and the same way towards all problems when they are placed in opposite extremes so far as their economic condition is concerned? Naturally it is not possible. It is the duty of the statesmen of the world to see that the world is made one. But if it is to be made one—this is what Truman has told us—did his Foreign Secretary Marshall offer to place their wealth at the disposal of other countries, not as loans or gifts but as their offering towards the promotion of this conception of the unity of the world? Did they use their resources in men and money and expert aid and materials to raise the economic level of other countries?

What is it that America has done so far as Asia is concerned? Nothing. And what is more? We have asked America to help these countries in the same way as she has been helping Western European countries. Until today she has not made up her mind to come to the rescue of Burma, Indonesia, Indo-China or China. If the economic condition of the masses in these countries had been raised to at least the minimum necessary level of decency, would it have been possible for those people to become a prey to the destructive agencies and elements that are now gaining more and more sway there? We have been told by the American Government and by Western countries that Western Europe was saved from the clutches of the Communist party because that territory was flooded with American capital goods and that with these they salvaged those people. Why is it that they did not think of doing the same so far as Asia is concerned?

I want our Foreign Department to concern itself with this aspect of the matter and then tell America and the rest of the world: 'Look here, if you are keen on championing the democratic cause and developing democracy all the world over us against the expanding and advancing world totalitarian front, then come to the rescue of people of this part of the world in regard to food, clothing, capital goods and other essential basic industrial equipment that this country needs. We want assistance. There is only one country which can provide that assistance and that country is America. But America is not playing the game.

Then on the other side there is Soviet Russia. She has also been trying to help her own friends of the south-east European countries. They have been helped economically by Soviet Russia and in the East also, Russia is trying to help those countries friendly to her. Because of our policy we have been pursuing of not aligning ourselves with Russia or America; we have not been able to get any assistance from either of these political blocks. Therefore what shall we do? Even at the risk of having to beg our own poverty, as our own Prime Minister declared, we should not definitely align ourselves with this or that group. Then what are we to do? As I said last year, we have been pursuing that line in this country of not joining either group. Then are we to be neutrals? I have said before that it is not becoming of this country that we should be taunted as neutrals. We should take a positive line. I am glad that our Prime Minister has been pursuing such a positive line. I am very glad he has taken the initiative in calling an Asian Conference here in regard to the Indo-Chinese problem. He is going to call another Conference and I am happy to see in the World Press the lead he has given has come to be appreciated very much except in the Soviet press. I can understand why it is so. I cannot understand why the Russians are so very keen in criticising the initiative taken by the Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Do they want the Britisher to take the initiative? Or do they want the Americans to take the initiative? If India had not taken the initiative it would have helped the Imperialist cause and not the cause of peace. India has no interest in imperialism or power politics. As she has taken the initiative, it is only fair to expect Soviet Russia to appreciate the lead given by India. We cannot be content with the present state of things.

We cannot rest on our oars and that is where our Foreign Ministry has got 3 P. M. to take sufficient steps in order to build up a peace front. It is necessary that they should come out into the world definitely and positively say that we are not in favour of either capitalist totalitarianism or idealistic totalitarianism or even economic totalitarianism but on the other hand we are out for the establishment of a true and full-fledged democracy and in order to building up that democratic front, we wish to pursue our foreign policy not only here in this country, not only in our relations with individual countries but also in our activities in the U.N.O.

Mr. Speaker: In order to enable me to accommodate a larger number of people who are anxious to speak, I would earnestly request the members to restrict their remarks to ten minutes instead of fifteen minutes. Otherwise it will not be possible to give chance to more members.

Mr. Tajamul Hussain (Bihar: Muslim): We got independence about a year and a half ago and now we are considered to be one of the greatest nations in the World. How this wonderful thing happened in such a short space of time? It is due entirely to the effort of one man and that is our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He raised us in the eyes of the world and I am sure if he remains our leader for at least ten years more, we will become the greatest nation in the world.

[Mr. Tajamul Hussain]

As regards the Commonwealth Relations we have not as yet decided whether we will remain a member of the Commonwealth or not. There are no doubt both advantages and disadvantages in remaining a member of the Commonwealth but I submit this is not the place to discuss this point. This point will be decided later on by the Constituent Assembly. If at that time we find that it is beneficial to us to remain a member of the Commonwealth, we will decide accordingly but if we find that there is absolutely no advantage to us by remaining a member of the Commonwealth, we will decide that we will not remain a member of the Commonwealth. But one thing I have not been able to understand, *viz.*, recently the Australian Prime Minister said that Australia was meant only for the White people. He also said that our Prime Minister Pandit Nehru agreed with him with regard to this policy of Australia. I would like to know whether it is true or not.

As regards Burma, as far as I am aware, there is an Act called the Burmese Nationalisation of Land Act of 1948 by which the Burmese Government can purchase all lands and houses belonging to Indians in Burma and also that Indians in Burma are not allowed to bring back sale-proceeds of the land and houses to India if they want to come to India. We are not allowed under the same Act to bring the profits from trade and commerce. So it has become impossible for Indians to come back to their own country if they so desired. There were many Indians there who were in the service of the Burmese Government and they had been dismissed but they were not allowed to bring their hard-earned money which they had saved out to their own country. If they want to remain there they cannot do so and they cannot come back to India because they are not allowed to bring back the money. They could not stay there because the right of citizenship had been denied to them. I understand that our Government have taken up the question of valuation of land belonging to Indians in Burma. This is very good, but not enough. I suggest that the Government of India should take up the question of valuation of house property and business also. I would like to say a few words about Embassies. We have just attained independence and naturally we want to become also the greatest nation and I have no doubt we will but it will no doubt take time and we must go slow. My suggestion is that on no account should we side with any foreign powers in case of war. We must remain neutral atleast for about ten years. By that time we will become stronger than what we are now. There is no doubt that the embassies in the foreign countries are doing good work. We are spending lot of money over them. My only prayer is we do not get ourselves involved in their power politics of the United States of America or Russia and lastly I will say one word about the French and Portuguese possessions in India about which the Prime Minister has already enlightened us. No Indian would like any Foreigners to remain in any part of India as part owner of India. It will be dangerous for us especially in case of war if we allow them to remain and so something should be done about it and I am glad that the Prime Minister has told us something about it.

Shri Haribar Nath Shastri (U.P.: General): I would not deal with the question of high foreign policy over which three of my distinguished friends have already spoken. I would simply submit in a nutshell that the policy that our great leader has been pursuing since the achievement of Independence is the only correct policy and that policy has raised India high in the estimation of the world. But at the present moment I desire to confine myself to one particular aspect of the External Affairs, namely, the working of our embassies in other countries. I feel that this is a very delicate subject and moreover I feel somewhat overwhelmed by the presence of one for whom during the last 24 years of my public life I have had profound regard mingled with considerable

awe. Still, I rise to say something in this regard because of a sense of duty which inspires me to open my mind on the present occasion. In doing so, I should like to assure the House and my Leader that I have no personal prejudice, no dislike against any particular individual. On the contrary, I have every respect for every one of our ambassadors. They are honest people, men of integrity, and they are doing onerous duty to this country, for which they deserve the wholehearted support and protection not only of the Government but also of this House. My comments are entirely impersonal and based on expediency and a certain amount of experience.

I would, in the first place, make a few remarks in regard to the principle that should govern the appointment of our ambassadors in future. In regard to this question, I have two suggestions to make. Firstly, that the appointment of our ambassadors should be confined to public men of standing and distinction in this country, who have been conversant with and who have been through thick and thin in the politics of this country. My second suggestion is—and I would invite my Honourable leader to consider whether it has any weight—that local men are, as a general rule, not appointed as our ambassadors. (Mr. *Tajamul Husain*: 'What is meant by local men?') The honourable member will please try to understand what I say. The reason why I make this suggestion is that due to long association with any particular country, an Indian who has been in a foreign country for, say, twenty or twenty-five years, develops conflicting loyalties, gets involved in intrigues and manipulations and the result is that these things stand in the way of the proper discharge of his duties, and also undermine his efficiency. So I humbly suggest that this aspect may be taken into consideration.

Then, there are two or three other suggestions that I should much like to make. The first is in regard to the question of foreign publicity. I felt, while I was in England, and in some of the continental countries last year, that the publicity of our country in foreign countries was very much ignored and I was pained to find that even in a country like England which had long association with this country colossal ignorance was prevailing in regard to the affairs in India. I met, eminent people, particularly leaders of the trade union movement, and I was astonished to find that there were baseless impressions in their mind in regard to this country. One of the impressions was that civic liberty in this country was completely suppressed and that there was a fascist regime in this country. The second and still more regrettable impression that prevailed at that time in that country was that the Cabinet of this Country was divided and that there was one section that stood for civic liberties whereas there was another section which stood for complete suppression of civic liberties. It should be, and it should have been the duty of our ambassador that such impressions should not arise and if they exist, they are counteracted effectively.

The third suggestion that I want to make is with regard to having adequate personnel having a fair knowledge of foreign languages. I found in course of my tour, that in our embassies people having a fair knowledge of the languages of the countries were very much lacking, and there were interpreters in certain continental countries who did not belong to India, but to those countries. I think that arrangements should immediately be made to start an institution under the External Affairs Ministry to train young men to take up this work.

Within the next two or three minutes that I have at my disposal I would like to touch on one important question, namely, the handling of confidential work. In course of my tour I noted that in some of the embassies, there were stenographers who were handling confidential work. And again, up to this time, ciphering work is also done in certain places by people who are foreigners. And

[Shri Harihar Nath Shastri]

still more amazed was I to find one thing in a particular country—I do not want to name that country. It was that our ambassador in that country went out on some official business for two or three weeks and during his absence, instead of his confidential files being handled by the Deputy High Commissioner, that work was handled by and looked after by his Private Secretary who was a foreigner, belonging to that country. I feel, that our Foreign Affairs Ministry should see to it that the confidential work in our embassies should be looked after by responsible people who belong to this country.

I have touched upon some of the points, and before I conclude, let me join in the high compliments that have been paid to my leader by my distinguished friends. I do say that he has very successfully handled the foreign affairs of our country. There is only one observation I have to make with regard to our foreign policy. There is an impression in this country which has found echo in one of the speeches at least, that the time has come when we should directly or indirectly align ourselves with a particular bloc. In this connection I want to give a warning. Let no false sense of security and, no temporary resentment against any particular country or against any particular party, cloud our judgment and goad us to follow a policy that may in the long run prove disastrous for our country.

Shri B. Shiva Rao (Madras: General): I want to utilise the brief time at my disposal for placing before the House some points arising out of India's participation in the last Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Before I do that I would like to make a suggestion to the Prime Minister that attempts should be made to place on the table of the House, with as little delay as possible, the reports of all Indian delegations to International Conferences, not only to the United Nations General Assembly but to such conferences as are held by the F.A.O., or U.N.E.S.C.O., or any other organization connected with the United Nations. Secondly, I would like him to consider whether it would not be possible to give this House an opportunity more frequently than once a year, to have debates on different aspects of foreign affairs. He spoke to us this morning comprehensively for almost an hour and a quarter, covering many points of the greatest interest and importance, and the House is expected to deal with them in the space of two and a half hours. I am aware, Sir, that because of the late arrangements that were made in regard to the budget discussions this year, it was perhaps not practicable to give more than one day for the discussion of the estimates of the External Affairs Ministry. But I hope this aspect will be borne in mind next year. Thirdly, I would like to repeat a suggestion which I made in the course of the budget discussion last year, and that is that inside the External Affairs Ministry there should be built up a section which would deal with all international conferences, whether they relate to commerce, or to public health or to cultural activities or to any Ministry in the Government of India. That I think would ensure a co-ordination of policies to be pursued by our Delegations which go abroad.

Now, coming to the Session of the General Assembly held in Paris last year, I think I must confess that it was even more barren of achievement than its immediate predecessor in 1947. In the main the lack of achievement was due to two factors: one was the uncertainty created by the presidential elections in the United States, which lasted until the beginning of November; the second was the deepening crisis over Berlin. Sitting in Paris and watching the almost interminable debates, particularly in the Political Committee, I was often reminded of a saying which I heard in this House many years ago, when in the place of the Prime Minister there sat the British Home Member of the then Government of India and the Leader of the Opposition was the late Pandit

Motilal Nehru. The Home Member in concluding the debate quoted a Bengali proverb, and translated into English is something like this: "those who live on the banks of a river must learn to make friends with the crocodiles." In Paris I felt that we lived on the banks of more than one river well stocked with crocodiles of various sizes and shapes; some almost friendly looking, some more true to form.

Last week in one of the questions which Mr. Sidhva put he raised a series of supplementaries in regard to South Africa's designs on South-West Africa, and he almost seemed to suggest that the Government of India had somehow failed in not securing the support of the Dominions and the other powers for the resolution that India had sponsored in regard to South-West Africa. I think it is necessary to understand the limitations under which a delegation works at an international conference like this. At the Committee stage it is necessary to secure a simple majority for any resolution before it can be passed on to the Plenary Session of the General Assembly. In the Plenary Session itself it must have at least a two-thirds majority. Now it is not in India's power, not belonging to any bloc as the Prime Minister pointed out this morning, and not having any power of influence over the voting of other members of the United Nations, it is not possible except by persuasion to secure the support of other members of the United Nations. And so far as South-West Africa is concerned, although India sponsored a resolution in the early stages, which we felt was necessary in order to register an emphatic protest against South Africa's design on South-West Africa, we found that in the later stages of the debate, even in the Committee, it was not possible to secure a simple majority for our resolution, and therefore we were compelled by the force of circumstances to support a resolution which was sponsored by one of the Latin American countries. Our regret was not only that it was not possible to prevent South Africa from annexing virtually South-West Africa, but that in our efforts to secure justice for South-West Africa we could not in the later stages of the debate get the support of a great many members of the United Nations from Asia. Ten or eleven of them, after promising support in the early stages fell away rather mysteriously.

Now I refer to this item of South-West Africa, not only because it was an item on the agenda in which we took special interest, but Africa today is one of the danger spots in the world. It is in Africa, largely due to the intolerant racial spirit of the Malan Government, that the seeds of future conflicts are being sown, and sooner or later, unless the other powers look out, there may be a conflagration which might spread to other parts of the world. The issue does not concern only a few lakhs of Indians in South Africa, or a few lakhs of the coloured people in South-West Africa. The issue is, broadly speaking, the right of the coloured races all over the world to the same rights and privileges which members of the United Nations enjoy. It is here it seems to me that India can, and in fact is playing her most important and her most significant role. We have gained our independence by the principles taught to us by Gandhi and we have succeeded in our efforts without loss of goodwill or friendship of the imperial power which held sway over us for many decades. Therefore, we are in the best position today in the world to secure the same rights for the other subject races who number something like two hundred million. I do not think it is easy for a colonial power at any time to relinquish its hold over a territory, with all the economic and political privileges which go with Imperialism. But just now I think there is a further complication in that the colonial powers of Western Europe have a grave fear that if they were to grant increasing freedom to territories under their control, the peoples of those territories may not enjoy their freedom for long but may be influenced by another power with a different ideology. It is for India to persuade these colonial powers to give up those rights and it is also for the British who are still

[Shri B. Shiva Rao]

today the greatest colonial power in the world to influence the other colonial powers to take the same line as they have done in India, Burma and Ceylon.

There is one other point to which I would like to refer before I sit down. I think we can legitimately derive great satisfaction from the fact that in all the elections for which India stood at the last session of the General Assembly—the Economic and Social Council, the International Law Commission and the Committee on non-self-governing Territories—not only did we succeed but we polled practically the highest number of votes that any country could get. We lost the election to the International Court of Justice not for any lack of appreciation on the part of the other powers of the merits of our candidate but entirely for high political reasons unconnected with India. I think it was our misfortune that India was not free at the time of the inauguration of the United Nations in 1945. I think by our size, by our population and more than anything else by the contribution that we can make to the strengthening of the foundations of world peace I think India is entitled to regard herself as amongst the big five or six. Unfortunately our claims were not recognised at that time. Nevertheless in view of the rapidly increasing influence that India wields today in world politics I think we should be undeterred by any considerations of false modesty but we should seek membership of the Trusteeship Council and of the Security Council, because I know that many countries in the world, particularly the colonial areas throughout the world, look to India for leadership and for protection.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C. P. and Berar: General): It is a matter for gratification that India since her recent emergence into world affairs has, under the wise guidance of our Foreign Minister, so far steered clear of the shoals and rocks of international power politics. While over Europe the Dollar and the Rouble are contending for mastery and while over large parts of Asia the same conflict is being waged in other ways and other forms; and in spite of the debacle in China, the retreat of democracy in Indonesia, the stagnation in Indo-China, the division of Korea, the upheaval in Malaya, the civil strife in Burma and the ferment in Palestine, we are happy to know that India has successfully pursued a natural and independent foreign policy. My anxiety is to see that this policy is pursued not merely today in peace but even in a future war—God forbid that it should come! With this idea in view I think that the first thing we have to do—which is the *sine qua non* for pursuing such a policy, completely neutral and independent foreign policy in foreign affairs—is to cut ourselves off from the commonwealth. With the greatest defence to the Foreign Minister's view in this matter I am constrained to say that so long as we continue to remain in the Commonwealth we will not be able to pull our full weight in world affairs or even in Asian affairs.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao (one of the Panel of Chairmen)]

The Prime Minister in his speech referred to the Commonwealth as the "so-called British Commonwealth" or the "former British Commonwealth". But it is disquieting to note that Dr. Evatt, the Minister for External Affairs in Australia recently said, I think it was last month, to the following effect in the Australian House of Representatives: "There has been no change in the title of the British Commonwealth and we were delighted to see that the phrase was used by the King in his speech in Christmas time. In matters of life and death the British Commonwealth sticks together."

I hope this is a misrepresentation by the Australian press of Dr. Evatt's speech. But if that represents the correct state of affairs, I think it is high time that we seriously reconsider the desirability of breaking off from the Commonwealth. Moreover, if we continue in this Commonwealth we are liable to the charge of being a party if not a party at least as conniving at

the racialism and colonialism that are still the dominant features of the Commonwealth today. The battle between colonial servitude and political liberty or democracy is being waged today in Asia and I am sure it will be waged tomorrow in Africa and so long as the Commonwealth continues to be what it is today, I think we as the youngest democratic nation in Asia have no place and we should not desire to have any place in the Commonwealth.

There is another factor against our continuance in the Commonwealth and that is this. Britain being the oldest member of the Commonwealth is likely to be the *primus inter pares* or the first among equals, among members of the Commonwealth and Britain, as world affairs show us today, has linked herself indissolubly and inevitably with the United States of America and there is hardly any genuine democracy in America today. What with the negroes being oppressed, and denied civil liberties, and what with the attitude of America towards the undeveloped and under-developed countries of Asia as was revealed in the proceedings of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations as well as in the ECAFE conference at Lapstone, Australia, in November or December last, there is hardly to my mind any genuine democracy in America today; and if we link ourselves with the Commonwealth it follows automatically, as night follows day, that we will be within the Anglo-American orbit. My anxiety is to see that we continue a completely and entirely independent foreign policy and the first essential is to break ourselves from the Commonwealth and sever all links with it.

Our next task would be to build up in Asia a United Nations of Asia by means of multilateral or bilateral pacts, regional alliances, not contrary to the United Nations Charter and its framework but within the United Nations framework; build up regional alliances within Asia and also bilateral and multilateral pacts in Asia and Europe relating to trade, commerce and even defence. If small countries like Norway, Sweden, Denmark can afford to be free without the shelter of the Commonwealth, why not we a great and ancient nation that has shaken off the foreign yoke; why cannot we stand on our own legs and enter into friendly alliances with all the countries in the world and build up this neutrality? In war it is not enough to say that we are neutral. Such neutrality should be borne of strength. Mahatma Gandhi used to say that he would prefer violence to the non-violence of a coward. The neutrality of the weak is no neutrality at all. It should be the neutrality of the strong and if we cannot build up our armaments, we certainly can build up the spirit of the people, the psychology of the people and that is what is wanted today, a militant neutrality of the people, just as Mahatma Gandhi in the days of 1942 built up this sort of psychology, the psychology of militant neutrality. This we can and should build up today. I am sorry to state that the psychology of the people is not being built on the right lines. I hope it will be done so that our neutrality policy will be successful in peace as well as in war.

Adverting to the embassies I would only like to say that firstly we have got to have a close watch and scrutiny over the expenditure not merely in connection with embassies but also with delegations and missions that go abroad. We must have full audit, both pre-audit and post-audit if that be necessary. We must take the earliest steps to see that all the embassies are completely staffed by Indians from top to bottom. Today there is the danger of espionage. Espionage is not merely done in war but also before war. We know how before the second world war some countries had their espionage systems in several other countries. This is a risk which we cannot afford to take. Therefore it becomes important that our embassies should be completely staffed by Indians from top to bottom. Our embassies must radiate culture and goodwill; they must be centres of Indian culture. Because, mutual understanding is today an important essential in world affairs.]

[Shri H. V. Kumaath]

would further remind the House that Mahatma Gandhi in his post-prayer speech just before his martyrdom stressed this fact as regards the expenditure on embassies—that a poor country cannot afford to spend too much on embassies. But today one is inclined to think that we care more for prestige abroad than for prosperity at home. To my mind prestige abroad and poverty at home go ill together. Prestige abroad without prosperity at home is an empty shell.

Before I close I would only say this that I believe that the second half of this century will show that Europe and America are not the whole world and that the future course of human civilization will be determined not on the Rhine, the Danube or the Volga but on the Yangtze, on the Nile and on the Ganga. To us in this century this opportunity has come now. There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune. I hope we shall be able to take advantage of this tide and march on to victory of peace, freedom and democracy not merely in Asia but in the world and we shall be able to build a world not half-slave and half-free as it is today, not a world divided against itself but one free world of peace, democracy and socialism—may I say, where the atom has triumphed over the atom bomb, where men are citizens of one free world and mankind one family rooted in the living God. I will only join the Prime Minister in his prayer for world peace and the welfare of mankind and I hope that ere long the spirit of Empire will give place to the Empire of the Spirit. *Om shanti, shanti, shanti.*

Mr. Nusruddin Ahmad (West Bengal: Muslim): The subject is very vast but the time is very short. I shall therefore deal with only one aspect of this subject, namely, the problem of maintaining peace. War is not inevitable, but much preparation is necessary and in fact one condition of peace is that every country should have sufficient military strength. If a country is weak from a military point of view other countries will find it easy to take possession of her. But even individual strength of a country from a military point of view is not enough; there must be collective security. Without collective security a country will not find herself safe. I submit therefore that India should be looking out for defensive alliance wherever and however possible. The weakness of international law in the past has been that international law is the enshrining point of jurisprudence. Whatever decision was taken by an international body, that body had not sufficient sanction behind it and it could not enforce its decisions, and therefore its decisions were not respected. As a consequence, might became a test of right. But we have in the U.N.O. the seeds of an effective world organisation. I suggest that India should try to strengthen the U.N.O. There should, I submit, be a federation of independent states. The army of the entire federation of federated countries should be one and unified. There should, I suggest, be a legislature of the entire federation and there should be a federal court of the federated nations. That should be the ideal towards which we should move. The idea of isolationism is absolutely meaningless and it will not lead to the maintenance of peace. Nobody knows how a world war starts. The seeds of war are to be found everywhere. All that is wanted is a little spark here or there. There is endless trouble in China, there is enough trouble in Burma, there is trouble in Malaya and other places and what is more, there is trouble inside India. The sooner therefore we begin to organise the different countries together on a common basis the better. The danger to peace may possibly come from the Russian side, and to avert any possible danger from that side it would be highly desirable for the democratic countries—those who want to come in—to combine together. It is from that kind of a combination of all democratic countries that a defensive organisation will be possible. It will not do to say

that we should sit on the fence and look to our interests; when a war starts we will be involved in it. The better thing would be a preventive method, namely, to seek a defensive alliance. If all the countries or as many countries as possible combine together, unite their army together, have a common legislature, common court and common army to give effect to their decisions, then I think the combination would be too strong for any possible disturber of peace to attack. In this way we can build up the defensive strength of the world and ensure peace.

The other subjects are very vast and I do not wish to take the time of the House. I should like that the suggestions which I have made be considered by the Government.

Srijut Kuladhar Chakraborty (Assam: General): Sir, while my predecessors have taken you to overseas and to embassies I shall take you to places nearer home—to the land of Gaidalu Rani of the Naga Hills, the land of Chitragada the land of Rukmini? (An Honourable Member: "Kamrup.") No, not the land of Kamrup which is rather already a developed country. Sir, in the eastern frontier between the administered territory and the McMahon Line which came into existence as a result of the agreement with Tibet in 1914 there live a lot of people known as Monalsas inhabiting the land, then we find the Lamai, Nisu (Dafas), Ahoms and others. These people have been practically loyal to us though we have not done anything yet for their education, health or in the matter of communications. It is really difficult to run roads in that area, but should we not attempt? We find that in this area we have our own *Brahmalunda* and *Parashramkunda*. Up to that extent we have run a road but beyond that we have not done it. I trust you will look after these people, that you will start schools and build roads. They have been given too much to the Christian American missionaries who have taught them to think that we are foreigners and that Europeans are better friends. Indians are not allowed there. This system is still prevailing that without a permit even now no man—Congressman or whoever he is—is allowed into that territory. This system should go; it is causing a great difficulty in that area. I last went there in 1941 and I had to take a pass. I was followed by a C.I.D.—that was of course during the war—and we could not go beyond Margherita. So, I should like to request the honourable the Prime Minister that this permit system should be abolished.

Then I shall take you to the other area which is called Lekapani through which runs the Stilwell Road which is under great disrepair. I think it was through this country that we were successful—or the British were successful—in stemming the tide of the foreign invasion. We should get this road in proper order if we want to be successful in future and avert dangers in good time. The Stilwell Road should be tackled properly; I think the length along the Indian and Burmese border should be repaired. Without this road we will have to face difficulties. Of course, beyond this we have the Kachins and Burmans—they are slightly friendly with us yet trouble may flare up in a day because we find that beyond 100 miles, south of Mandalay, there have been Communist troubles and it is only about 300 miles from Mandalay to Lekapani. We should be careful to move our army in time—even now, I think.

Then I shall take you to the Naga hills where the people are restive. There was Gaidalu Rani who was inspiring the people to fight against the British so that they may join with Mahatma Gandhi in his attempt to do away with the British regime. She joined hands with us. Today she is rotting somewhere. I do not know where, but she is still there. I think our Prime Minister knows it very well—it was he who made her famous throughout the world. (An Honourable Member: "She is still in jail.") No, she is out, but we have not made any provision for her. We should make a provision for her so that she may be an example to us and an inspiration to the

[Sri Jut Kuniadhar Chaliha]

rest of the world. (*An honourable Member*: 'A national pension') I suggested that long ago when the British regime was there, but we failed then; we suggested that she should be brought even up to Mathura or Brindaban and kept here but we failed there.

I shall now take you to Manipur. It is an acceding State but we have troubles there. We have the Communists and the people are restive; I do not know if even a Minister is a Communist there. We should watch this area very carefully and we should repair the road via Jorhat to Danahri; that road is cut away by the Danahri River. If you do not keep that road to Jorhat via Dimapur, Palel and Tamu, I think in times of danger we shall have to rue for it. That road is a national highway but it has not been kept in proper repair; the patch between Dimapur and Golaghat is very bad. It should be repaired in the interests of the tribes and for the protection of our frontiers. It is also necessary that the Commander-in-Chief should visit these places—I think he has an idea to visit them. There—there is the Communist menace, south of Aijal and Langleh. The Communists have come up to Akyab, they can come up to Langleh, then to Manipur and then to Silchar. The roads through these areas should be developed. If the roads from Langleh via Aijal and then to Silchar and then from Manipur to Silchar via Bishenpur are not improved we shall have some trouble in future. The Communists have got there. Possibly during the War you must have heard of Bathedung and Rathedung and through these areas the Communists are infiltrating. Therefore, it is necessary that that road should be properly looked after.

I shall now come to the Budget. I find that a crore and four lakhs have been allotted for 'Tribal areas', but out of that I find Rs. 88 lakhs have been provided for the Assam Rifles. I think no attention has been paid to the improvement of the tribal areas. Out of a crore and four lakhs if 88 lakhs are taken out very little is left for the improvement of these areas. This sum should be taken under Defence. I do not know if I am wrong but I do not find any item under the head 'Education': it is a blank item. It may be that you have a five year plan and possibly you have included education there. But if it is not included, I shall request the honourable the Prime Minister to see that the proper amount is included for the education of the Nagas, for the education of Lushais and for the education of the other tribal people. Hospitals should also be run in these places and we should not let them remain alone in the hands of the Christian missionaries who have been, practically speaking, disloyal to us and who have been teaching that we are bad people, that we are not friendly to them that we are a people who look upon them as *karijans*. This feeling should be eliminated, and I think the British and American missionaries should, as far as possible, be brought out of these areas.

I also find that these areas are very rich in forests. There is a forest area of about 1800 square miles, much better than the Nicobar Islands. We have such an excellent place where timber can be extracted and tea chests made out of it. At present we have got two mills. We require about 50 to 100 lakhs of tea chests and possibly the entire quantity can be had from this area provided we invest money. I have been in consultation with people here in Delhi and they say that about Rs. 15 lakhs in one mill and about Rs. 20 lakhs in another will be quite sufficient to produce all the tea chests that we require for the country. Also, these chests will give the Government of India a duty of possibly about Rs. 50 lakhs or more, even if they charge eight annas a chest, and the entire cost can be met out of the tea chests if the mills are undertaken either by the Government or through private agencies.

As regards health, we do not run hospitals in those areas as the Christian missionaries have done. They have got a hospital in the Naga hills, in Sadiya. We should proceed in the same way, in the missionary spirit; we should run hospitals with nurses so that the full weight of our civilising influence and the influence of the Indian Union is felt. Then and then only will we earn the gratitude of the people of Assam, the people of Naga hills and the people of other hills.

Shri M. Thammal Rao (Madras: General): I do not want to take much of the time of the House, coming as I do at the 4 P. M. lag end of the debate, but I want to offer a few remarks. Foreign policy is not an isolated activity of a Government. It has got an organic and indissoluble connection with finance, business and the economic situation in the country. Therefore, if we are to judge whether our foreign policy is sound, whether it is intended to consolidate the position of the country in the world politics, we have also to look to the country from within. Unless we are internally strong with regard to our defence, our counsel or our word in international gatherings will not carry much weight, and in order to build a sound defence in a new democracy that has been just born, you require all the assistance of a willing Finance Minister who should be able to allot as much money as is demanded by the Defence Department.

Our country has already a name and a fame that has established itself even before we won our independence. When we were slaves under the British, our country had no foreign policy. It was controlled by our masters and a few Yes-men were always taken to these international gatherings of limited status and were asked to go into the meetings and get out of the meetings at the sweet will of the ring-master who invariably used to be a British politician. But even though we had no status in international circles, the country's moral stature has gone so high that our great savants like the late Rabindranath Tagore, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mahatma Gandhi, have placed this country on a pedestal which is far above the rest.

Within the short time we have had freedom, the indefatigable energy of our Prime Minister has spread the position of our country into the councils of the world. As one who has witnessed our Prime Minister addressing the United Nations Organisation recently on November 1st, last, I could see how he was far above the tallest of those that were gathered there from the international Councils. I had the good fortune of going in the Parliamentary Delegation from here where we had contact with delegations of all the Commonwealth countries. They were all politicians, members of Parliament, who were vying with one another, both ladies and gentlemen, to see our Prime Minister and shake hands with him, because from their respective High Commissioners and their big officers and Prime Ministers they had heard that our Prime Minister was easily the outstanding personality at the Prime Ministers' Conference. Therefore, though I am not here to praise him to his face, this is the only opportunity when I can tell you, my comrades in this House, of the impression which he created in the world abroad. But to carry out his ideals, he requires a strong country behind him, a prosperous country behind him and an invulnerable defence behind him. It is not enough if we go on developing in a lopsided way.

I do not agree with the very unjustified and cynical remark that fell from an ex-President of the Congress that we are more prosperous abroad than inside the country. If you go about and see what prestige this country has built up and that in a short time, you will understand what it is. All the countries that are now under the heel of the Western Imperialism are looking to India for their emancipation. The recent conference in India on Indonesia which was attended by 19 nations proves that a white nation, with a white policy, like Australia was compelled to come down here and take counsel round the table.

{Shri M. Tirumala Rao}

in New Delhi. That means the Eastern Hemisphere and South East Asia has got its own problems and in their solution India is going to play a great role in the near future. The position in Burma, the position in Ceylon and the position in Eastern and Western Pakistan are not very happy. It taxes all the intelligence, all the diplomatic skill and also the physical strength of this country if we are to eliminate the trouble spots on the frontiers of India. With all the goodwill that is at our command, we are not able to bring round Ceylon to treat our nationals there properly. The South African problem has become an eye sore to all of us and we need not wonder if it becomes a world problem which will easily lead to a fresh war.

To develop all these things, we require not only the foresight and capacity of our Foreign Minister. He has to be assisted by a well-trained army of workers. We had no diplomatic corps worth the name before the British left us. They had naturally kept all the strings in their own hands under the Foreign Department which was entirely manned and controlled by Europeans. However high placed an Indian official may be, even if he belongs to the omniscient U.C.S., it is a new department for them and when I see the Embassies I find that nearly half of them are manned by officials. Out of the 19 Legations and Embassies, I find nine officials and eight non-officials. I want that the non-officials should be encouraged and there should be further recruitment from the non-officials of this country to fill these places. With all respect, I want to bring to the notice of the Prime Minister that officials have been brought up in a certain groove, in a certain atmosphere, which has not been changed by the democratic influences in the country. You send a high official to America or elsewhere. He goes about his business in the wonted way and comes out without any human contact with those people that are working there. Therefore, I suggest that officials are good Secretaries to carry out the policies of politicians and statesmen. I want that the Foreign Department and our Prime Minister should take note and try to select a class of public workers, men from public life, who would go and fill these places with credit and honour to the country.

I want the Foreign Department to observe some continuity with regard to these Conferences. In this Conference, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, which was held in Ootacamund, you sent Mr. Sitarama Reddy, one of the Ministers in Madras, as the alternate leader and you sent our Deputy Speaker, Shri Ayyangar. But when this Conference was held in Australia, the Department—I think it was the Commerce Department that was concerned, but I hope the Commerce and External Affairs Departments will work in coordination—they had not even the courtesy to ascertain whether these gentlemen who had given their time and attention to this Conference would be willing to go as delegates to this Conference. They deputed one senior official. I have no quarrel with senior officials. I have got very great respect for them and for their ability and integrity. But that is not the point here. You cannot always depend on a particular class of public servants to represent this country in all international conferences. Where is the harm if these two gentlemen who are capable and gave their time to this Conference were at least consulted and it was ascertained if they would be able to give their services. They were actually ignored and were left behind. So also with regard to delegations. The Commonwealth delegation which was sent from here consisted of all legislators. We have gathered good experience. We have established very good contacts with friends from the rest of the world and it is time that we think of public men in this connection.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad (Bihar: General): Sir, I suggest that the Government of India should approach the Governments of Russia and America to guarantee our neutrality in the event of a world war. I feel that such a course

of action will be in perfect consonance with the main trend of our foreign policy. We do not want to be the palanquin bearers of the leaders of Russia or America. Our own economy is not at present fully developed. We want time for that. We do not want that our growing economy should be shattered as a result of participation in war. Our experience has been that countries who have participated in war have found themselves, after a period of time, to have been losers in a political sense. After the first world war, it appeared that England won it, but where is England now? As a result of participation in two world wars England has lost the position of power she enjoyed once in the Councils of the World. It is too early to say whether America has won this war in the political sense of the term. Military victory does not necessarily connote political victory. I feel that the time may not be far off when it will be fully realised that neither America nor Russia have won this war. As my friend Mr. Kaniath pointed out, the future lies with the people of Asia, Egypt, China and India. The lesson of history has been that countries who did not participate in wars did not suffer in any sense of the term. Switzerland kept out of the two wars and remained neutral. She has not suffered in consequence. I want to know whether Turkey and Ireland have in any way suffered as a result of non-participation in the second world war? I want to know whether Japan which did not take any part in the first world war suffered (*Inter-ruption*). My main contention is that participation in wars does not promote national greatness and non-participation does not mean that the country concerned loses its status and place.

A point was made yesterday that we should enter into a joint defence pact with this country or that. I am opposed to that, because the question of defence is intimately connected with the question of foreign policy. Unless the countries with whom we are advised to enter into defence pacts have the same aspirations and the same foreign policy as ourselves, there is no meaning in seeking an alliance with them. Unless the Governments of Pakistan and Nepal and South-east Asia pursue the same foreign policy that we are pursuing, there cannot be anything beneficial in a joint defence pact. We are pledged to peace and unless those countries are also pledged to peace, there can be no pact with them. I personally feel that the whole picture of South East Asia will undergo a radical change if we ask the Governments of England and America and Russia to guarantee our neutrality. We will then know who is our friend and who is our enemy. Let Russia deny that position which we want. Let America deny that status which we want to achieve. What will be our next step if that recognition is not given to us, it will be for us to decide. I know what we should do next. I feel that a strong South East Asian Federation can only be built on the foundations of peace. A strong and stern refusal to participate in a coming war will be the only basis on which the South East Asian Federation can be established.

Shri Raj Bahadur (United State of Matsya): The foreign policy of a country is as vitally important for its security and freedom as its military capacity and preparedness for the defence of its frontiers. That our foreign policy has been a success none can doubt. The very fact that the establishment of our State has been achieved and that the ship of our state has weathered the severest storms and tempests speaks volumes for the soundness and wisdom of that policy.

It may be realised that for the success of any foreign policy a well-organised, and efficient publicity department is essential. It was but meet and proper that in June last the Information Branch of our Foreign propaganda was entrusted to the Foreign Ministry itself. From a practical point of view, it may be said without any fear of contradiction, that during the course of the centuries during which we have been slaves under the domination of foreign countries, a mountain of prejudice and superstition has grown up against our nation. I am saying this from my personal experience. During last

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

summer I had the opportunity of a short visit to England and happened to be in a hotel where a schoolmaster of a secondary school resided. He invited me to go and speak about India to his boys in the school. The boys were between the ages of 16 and 18. I went there and had a talk for about 1-1/2 hours. At the end the students put me certain questions which stunned and shocked me. The first question was: Do you worship snakes and cows? Is it a fact that many Hindus have got as many as 1,000 wives each? Is it a fact that every Indian is found chewing twigs in the morning? Is it a fact that some Indians are not allowed to travel in trains or go to the wells for drawing water? These strange questions culminated in the query whether there were cannibals in India. One can imagine my feelings when I was thus faced by such a question. As far as untouchability was concerned, I could not easily controvert that, but even so I told them that the evil of untouchability was similar to the evil of Race prejudice "colour bar"; and while we have already got over the evil of untouchability to a great extent we are confident that we would completely overcome it long before the day the so-called white races banish the evil of "colour-bar". As regards the question of using twigs was concerned I answered their question by saying that the twigs freshly cut from trees of known medicinal value every day were definitely better for the teeth than using the same brush for weeks and months. I was also asked whether cattle were left astray in the streets and I told that while it may probably be true in remote villages it was certainly not true for bigger towns and cities. I was confronted with a book on geography containing the picture of a cobbler sitting on the foot-path with cattle standing around him. This is the type of information that is being given to students in England. Such pictures damage the reputation of India. In one of the News-Picture Houses I happened to visit, I saw a picture about the supposed uprising of the people of Jaipur in June last, alleged to be clamouring for independence. There was another picture depicting Mahatma Gandhi murder trial. Wherein the principal accused was prominently featured and the running commentary described him as "smiling when he faced the camera". The third picture portrayed Sydney Cotton as a hero. His so-called mercy mission of flying medicines from Karachi to Hyderabad was depicted prominently. Yet another picture shown there, related to the so-called benevolent rule of the Nizam. The screen was thus full of hostile propaganda. The press also was fully anti-Indian and hostile. It is therefore very essential that the mountain of prejudice that has accumulated in foreign countries against us should be removed. We have got to undo the wrong. Mahatma Gandhi in one of his moments of intense feeling once called the British rule "satanic". That rule, apart from the social, cultural, moral and political ruination of our country created a mountain of prejudice against us in Western countries. So, one of the most important things that the External Affairs Department has got to do is to annihilate that mountain of prejudice. We are proud of our civilisation and culture. But we have got to impress upon the Western people the excellence of our civilisation and culture and prove to them that it is not the whole truth to say that "we have a lot to learn from Europe and America". The whole truth would be if we add that they have also got to learn a lot from us. In conclusion may I submit that the masses all the world over are definitely averse to any sort of war. They are not at all interested in any scramble for raw materials or markets. They are not interested in power politics or in the loaves and fishes of jobs in the United Nation's offices. They are interested only in their bread and in the peace and security of their hearths and homes. As such, if India has got to lead, as our honourable Prime Minister has justly remarked, we have got to carry the Master's message to the world

for which the masses are pinning. We have got to play a vital role in the avoidance of a Third World war. If India's message has to be taken to the outside world, we have got to see that our Publicity Organization is brought upto the required standard. We see that there is danger lurking on all sides of our frontiers. We see what is happening in China, we see Burma is seething with a bloody struggle. We also see that things are not quite alright on our northern and western sides also and in such a critical time it is very essential that we are interpreted correctly and rightly to the entire world.

Shri O. V. Alogesana (Madras: General): While listening to the speech of the honourable the Prime Minister this morning my mind went back 17 years to a meeting in the Madras Beach which was addressed by Panditji when he was the President of the Indian National Congress. That meeting was presided over by our late lamented leader Satyasmurti who after the speech of Panditji characterised it as "the feast of reason and flow of soul." I was reminded of more words when I was hearing the speech on foreign policy by our Prime Minister this morning. It is said that this Government is fortunate in that it is able to command not only the political support of the people of the country but also the sentimental affection and loyalty of the people. That is true; but let us consider the other side also. Can anyone assess the benefits that have flowed to this country from the possession of such a rare personality as our Prime Minister at the helm of affairs. Is not the country fortunate in having his leadership? He has put India very prominently in the international map. It cannot be denied that in spite of the fact that we may be the biggest political unit in point of potential strength and population, our international stature is small compared with that of several other countries today but the international stature of our leader is nothing less than that of any other personality in the world. It is no exaggeration to say that he even overshadows the other leading personalities of much bigger countries than ours. I welcome the statement that he made this morning on the French possessions in India. He said that ultimately they cannot but end in integration with India. But we should remember that the people of these Foreign possessions in India have waited long. These possessions in the present context are an anomaly and an anachronism. They cannot continue—these little bits—when the rest of India has become free, to be under the control and administration of foreign powers. It is unnatural. It is high time that we say 'Quit India' to all these powers that hold these bits of India in their possession today. Taking the French possessions, we know what has happened there. There was a farce of an election conducted as a result of a compromise arrived at between our Government and the French Government. It was not possible for our Government to send its official observers to that election. Non-official observers were present on behalf of the Indian National Congress and they have since told the country what election it was that took place. People, who know the state of affairs in French India, will say that there can be no such thing as a free democratic election there as is understood in the rest of India. It is always the party that is backed by the Government that wins there. This is clear from the fact that not one seat was captured by the pro-merger group there, that is, by the French India National Congress. All the seats went to the party which was supported by the money and goondaism of the French Administration in Pondicherry. Now we are told as a result of the very same agreement that a referendum will be taken when these newly elected representatives so decide. The principle of referendum cannot be acceded to by our Government. We cannot agree to the principle that portions which are part and parcel of India should go to the polls and decide to join India and vote for reunion with India. The people themselves in these possessions consider that

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to be a challenge to their self-respect and nationalism and patriotism. It should be taken for granted that these people want re-union with India and negotiations should be set a foot and results achieved quickly. Because, I may remind the House here that the peoples agitation in these possessions was stopped at the bidding of Mahatma Gandhi who advised them that since there is a National Government in power today, since Panditji is taking care even of Indonesians, he will certainly take care of the French Possessions in India and that he will see to it that they are merged with the rest of India. On that advice the people stayed their hands and are from that day following the advice of the Indian National Congress. It is but fair to them that we should see that they are re-united with India at the earliest possible moment. More than one speaker referred to the situation arising out of the Land Nationalisation Act in Burma. There are about 30 lakhs of acres—worth 90 crores that belong to Indians and it is not known whether any compensation will be paid to these nationals of our country who hold these properties there. It was observed earlier that nobody can object to the principle of nationalisation. That is true. But, it should be treated as the national property of India and negotiations should be started with Burma Government and a satisfactory solution found for this. Also there is another question as to how Burma Government treats the properties of nationals belonging to other countries. If there is any discrimination in their favour, then we have a right to demand that the property of our nationals also should be dealt with in the same manner. At least our nationals in Burma may be called somewhat well-to-do people and they may take care of themselves but when I turn to Ceylon, the position of our people there—more than seven lakhs mostly labourers—is pitiable. The question of Indians Overseas is mostly a question of Tamils Overseas and as one hailing from that part of the country, I am naturally very much interested in their well-being. I do not mean to say that the Government as such is not taking sufficient interest. In fact, it has. The long correspondence that took place between our Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Ceylon makes a sad reading. Our Prime Minister has approached the problem with a vision and insight which was not reciprocated by the other side. He has written: "I have approached this problem, not as one between two disputing parties in which each has to make concessions to the other but as one requiring a joint effort by two Governments to do justice and to bring contentment to an important section of the population of Ceylon, which though Indian in origin, has made substantial contribution to the economic development of Ceylon." This was the approach of our Prime Minister but it was not reciprocated. Since this correspondence took place, the Indian Residents (Citizenship) Act has been passed by the Ceylon Government. Though 82 members of the Ceylon Assembly opposed it, it was passed by the support of 52 members of that Assembly. Under this Act, the disabilities imposed on Indians in the way of their registering themselves as citizens of that country are so great that it is well-nigh impossible for them to do so. It will not be possible for them to register themselves as citizens of Ceylon because they will have to prove that they had lived there from the beginning of 1939, in the case of married persons and 1936 in the case of others. Even after this registration, there are further discriminations made against citizens by registration and citizens by descent. With all these disabilities, many of our people will not be able to take part in any of the economic activities of that country. It is a serious situation and this also can be settled only by high-level negotiations and friendly approach. I hope the Government will take sufficient notice of this and do the right thing.

I have only one thing to add, and I have done. The honourable Prime Minister in another place, while referring a recent appointment of our representative in a foreign country, explained the back-ground of that

appointment. I wish that the same background is kept in mind when making appointments to those countries whose Indian population is largely the Tamil.

Dr. B. V. Keekar (Deputy Minister for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): I have listened with great attention to the speeches of my honourable friends and to the various expositions of what they think our foreign policy should be, of what is their conception of the lines on which we should shape our foreign policy, and I have also listened with very great attention to the various suggestions and points that they have placed before the House.

In regard to certain points raised by them, for example the one raised by Shri Shiva Rao, let me at the very outset say that we would be very glad to place such of the reports of our international delegations on the table of the House as are not confidential, and care will also be taken in future to have reports placed on the table of the House and specially prepared for the House. We would also welcome more frequent debates on our foreign policy. It will be of great help to the Government to know the mind of the House. And on the occasion of an important international event, we would very much like to have debates. I might also add that the meetings of the Standing Committee for the Ministry of External Affairs which are also in the nature of a restricted debate on such topics would be more and more frequent. They are, even now held frequently.

With regard to the principle on which our foreign policy has been based, my friend Prof. Ranga said that the honourable Prime Minister in his speech did not appear to be very conscious that there is a cold war going on at present between the United States of America and Russia. I think I listened to the Prime Minister's speech very carefully and it was nowhere said that we are not conscious of this cold war. I would rather call it a mental and moral tug-of-war that is going on at present. In fact the present power blocks to which Prof. Ranga referred are really based on this tug-of-war. So, this cold war is felt by all of us everywhere. It is not only in the countries to which my honourable friend referred that you feel it. For example, he referred to Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia where you feel it every instant. I would say that we feel it everywhere in the world, in some countries more intensely and in others less intensely. That is the reason why in his statement on foreign policy the Prime Minister referred to our position with regard to these two big blocks. I know he referred also to the question whether we should be neutral and some other honourable member also referred to the question of our neutrality. I would like to say that there should not be any misunderstanding. We do not join this block or that; but it does not mean that we will be passive onlookers of the great drama going on in the world. We will also participate in it. I know honourable members wanted that we should participate. But the question is how we should participate in this great drama that is going on. The Prime Minister very clearly indicated the lines on which we are going to proceed. Ours is a positive policy of encouraging peace and all forces of peace in the world. I think that is the best and the only policy, not only for this country, but also for the rest of the world. How that policy should be developed and on what lines, these are questions of detail into which we can go later on. I do not think at this moment, this is the right time to go into them. I may assure the Members of this House that at no time we would follow the policy of pure neutrality. Ours would be what I would call a positive and constructive approach to world peace.

Another honourable member, Shri Brajeshwar Prasad referred to the question of maintaining world peace and suggested that we must ask the United States of America and Russia and also England to guarantee the neutrality of

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India. He also referred to the example of Switzerland. May I say, in reply to this suggestion that the country which requires such a guarantee of peace from other powers is a frail one, and it is a manifest admission of weakness and helplessness on our part. If we claim that we are going to play a positive and strong role in maintaining and achieving international peace, I think it is a very weak and wrong attitude on our part to take. Do you think that paper guarantees given by U.S.A. or Russia or any other country counts in the ultimate shape of things? At the proper time, such a guarantee may possibly be regarded as a scrap of paper, if it suits any particular power to choose to violate our neutrality. Neutrality, or what I would call our particular position always depends on the situation of things, on our own strength, on our attitude and our own relations with other powers in the world. I do not think that a guarantee of neutrality would guarantee peace for India or peace for the world.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: If a pact of neutrality can have no meaning, has any pact any meaning?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: Questions have been raised by my honourable friends, Seth Govind Das and Prof. Ranga with regard to the position of Indians overseas. Naturally every year there have been discussions in this House and outside. We have been very anxious and very occupied about them and we have always followed the conditions of Indians overseas. But as the Prime Minister said in his speech, their position to-day is different. After August 1947 our attitude with regard to the question of Indians overseas had to undergo a considerable change. We had to look at it from a new angle. All those of our countrymen who are settled in large numbers in our neighbouring countries, and certain countries far away, like British West Indies, in the new shape of things have to choose whether they would like to be Indian nationals or they would like to be citizens of the country where they are living. Our policy has been very clear. We have encouraged Indians who have settled down in various countries to take up the nationality of, and to merge themselves with, the people of those countries and their interests, and not to remain as an alien bloc in those countries, because that always creates conflicts, creates suspicion in the minds of the people and leads to trouble and bitterness. Ultimately, as they claim to be our nationals we have to go to their help and sometimes it is very difficult to do so.

Prof. Ranga rightly referred to the question of Indians in certain neighbouring countries who have got interests which are in conflict with the interests of the people there: those who have banking interests and capital interests, and which the people of those areas resent. Naturally, in any question of the Government of that country trying to curb or limit their powers the question would always crop up whether we should support our nationals there or not.

So, on the whole, our policy has been that Indians in different countries should try to merge their interests with the people of the country there. Certainly that does not mean that we are indifferent to their fate. We are always very carefully following the situation of Indians in different areas and we do our best to help them.

I would like to modify the statement made by my honourable friend, Prof. Ranga in one instance. It would not be right or absolutely correct to say that Indians have in quite a large number of countries interest which can be called banking or capital interests. If you will look at the figures, you will see that the vast number of Indians abroad are labourers and of very poor class of people and unfortunately they have been exploited up till now. It is therefore

only right that as they are ignorant people, who are unable to look after their own interests, who are not educated, and who are our country-men, that we should look to their interests and guide them.

Shri B. Das (Orissa: General): But he had Burma in mind.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: They did not come into conflict with the locals there!

Dr. B. V. Keshkar: I agree. With regard to Indians overseas, the question of Burma came up. Mr. Tajamul Husain and Shri Alagesan referred to the situation in Burma. I think Shri Alagesan had misunderstood the situation there. The question of paying compensation to Indians, as has been stated many times on the floor of the House, is one which has been occupying the attention of the Government all along. He quite rightly said that the Burma Government has every right if it decides to nationalise land in Burma: the question is what is the form and amount of compensation to be paid to Indians in Burma who held land. That question had been taken up with the Government of Burma. All along we carried on negotiations through our Ambassador there and through direct correspondence on several occasions. Honourable Members will also remember that a Delegation was to go to Burma composed of the Congress President and two of the Ministers from Madras and other interested persons, who were to negotiate with the Government of Burma with regard to this important matter. Unfortunately, the situation in Burma has worsened and it is not possible for the moment to carry out these negotiations. As a result of this, the implementation of the Land Nationalization Act is not taking place because the Burma Government is fighting for its own life, but I might assure him that, the question of compensation, and other matters connected with the well-being of Indians in Burma will be always considered by the Government, and when the proper time comes negotiations will be resumed.

My honourable friend, Mr. Chaliha, touched on the question of the tribal areas. He has made the statement that we have done nothing, or practically nothing, to help the people of the tribal areas in developing themselves, in educating them and in creating better communications and means of modern amenities in those areas. As honourable members know, this vast area, which is on the borders of India, and which is our frontier with two or three countries, is a very vital one, and it is for that reason that it is in the External Affairs Department and not under the Home Ministry as such, or under the Provincial Government. I would like Mr. Chaliha to know that we have a five-year plan for the development of this area, and I think he has been wrongly informed that no scheme has been put in motion or is being implemented with regard to education and the cultural contacts with the people of these areas. If my honourable friend will look into the details of this year's budget, he will find that a sum of Rs. 600,000 is set apart for the educational and economic development of this area. There is a scheme for developing all roads, for the development of medical facilities, for agricultural improvement and for the construction of hospitals in this area. In fact, the construction of two or three hospitals is being taken up immediately. They have already constructed a base hospital and about twelve dispensaries in this tribal area. The question of education is also engaging the attention of the Government and our immediate scheme is to have a training school for training teachers from the local area who will take up the education of their own people.

Some complaints were made by my honourable friend that Congressmen are not allowed to go into these areas and this is something which the present Government cannot tolerate. But the question is not so simple as it looks. The

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fact is that the people of these areas themselves privately approach the Government and sometimes publicly that outsiders should not be allowed to go there because they feel that they may be exploited.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): That is the old story. That was in the British days. They do not say so now.

Dr. B. V. Keskar: We have had some consultation with the tribal people, very recently and they take the same stand. It does not mean that no one is allowed to go there. Anybody interested in working in the tribal areas or seeing things for himself, members of the Central Assembly or members of the Assam Assembly, are given permission immediately. There is no question of their not getting permission. But my honourable friend would take into consideration the question that this is a delicate matter, and we do not want to raise up suspicion and hostility in the minds of the tribal people that we are trying to put up schemes or do things which are going to bring about their fall or upset the state of things which existed with them till now. Our five year plan is really a scheme for bringing them into contact with modern amenities and modern methods of administration and we propose to do it gradually. Being ignorant and being isolated and not being in contact with other more civilised life they should be brought gradually and slowly on a par with the administration that exists in Assam and other neighbouring areas. We are all agreed on that. I think in the opinion of the Government it should be done gradually and slowly.....

Shri H. V. Kamath: What about the issue of India's relations with the so-called Commonwealth and also the issue of building up a psychology of militant neutrality in India to which I referred?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Neutrality has already been answered.

Shri H. V. Kamath: I mean active neutrality and not passive neutrality.

Dr. B. V. Keskar: I think the honourable the Prime Minister referred to it this morning. Our approach is positive and how it is going to be achieved something for all of us to ponder over.

I come now to some of the points raised which I would like to deal with...

Shri H. V. Kamath: About the Commonwealth is that the last word? Can the Deputy Minister throw any light on this?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: There is nothing like the last word. I will deal with it.

My friend Mr. Harihar Nath Shastri referred to the question of public being ineffective, and inefficient or rather there being incompetency in the matter of knowledge of languages in our representatives abroad and hence some of our confidential work being entrusted to foreigners. There is also the question which has run through not only most of the speeches here but it has always been hinted on the floor of the House many times and outside, viz., too much expenditure and the necessity for economy in our establishments abroad. I have only one or two observations with regard to this.

Looking at this problem from the point of view of principle, as the Prime Minister said this morning, first of all we have to decide whether India as an independent country has to establish relations with foreign countries or not. I think this is something which we need not discuss, though one or two friends did say that there is no need for us to have so many foreign relations. I think if we have to live as an independent country we have to have foreign relations, otherwise we cannot lead an independent life. If you look at the comparative figures of expenditure incurred by different countries on their foreign

missions abroad you will see that ours is proportionately the lowest and most economical foreign office in the world. I am not referring to England whose expenditure is many times more than ours or the U.S.A. whose expenditure is bigger still, but the expenditure on foreign establishments of even smaller countries is much bigger.....

Shri H. V. Kamath: How it is in relation to the *per capita income*?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: If you want our country of 300 million people to be represented abroad and if the honourable member wants as he himself said in his speech that India should play a certain role in the international world, I do not think it can be done without an adequate and first class foreign establishment. Especially I would like honourable members to bear in mind that ours is a newly independent country. I would go further than the Prime Minister and say that for a country which has newly won its independence, which has not got a foreign establishment, which wants to develop an adequate and first class foreign establishment, it ought to spend much more, because initial expenditure in such things is always bigger. For example you all know that most of the foreign countries have got their missions for decades and centuries. They have their own big buildings, offices: they have a tradition behind them. We have to create all that and that involves more expenditure than ordinarily would be required. If you look at the details of our expenditure you will see that in order to economise as much as possible taking into consideration the financial situation of our country, the Government have thought fit to proceed cautiously with regard to the establishment of our foreign missions abroad, even though we know that we should develop our contacts with the world as soon as possible.

A reference was made to external publicity. How are you going to have external publicity and have effective publicity too if you do not want to spend money on it? There are two different and contradictory points of view expressed by my honourable friends. Some friends want that we should spend less and at the same time we should be effectively represented abroad and should also have effective propaganda in the outside world. I think that is not possible. We have to spend and spend adequately. Naturally we take into consideration the financial situation of our country and try to economise our expenditure as much as possible.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Have it also audited properly.

Dr. B. V. Keskar: There are special auditors appointed to audit the accounts of our missions abroad and adequate care will be taken to see that every pie is spent properly.

Shri R. K. Sridha: What is the cost of the British Embassy in India?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: I am sorry I cannot give the figures but I can tell my honourable friend that the expenditure of the British Foreign Office as a whole is several times bigger than ours.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar General): Ours is a poor country.

Srijiit Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Sir, I would like to remove the wrong impression created in the mind of the Honourable Deputy Minister. The statement that the tribal people do not like Indians from the plains to go to them and that they welcome Europeans and American should not be allowed to go uncontradicted. In reply to a question put by me it was said that in a conference held in 1946 such a sentiment was expressed by the tribal people but during those days in all the political areas the political officers were Europeans and no Indian was allowed to work in those areas. Therefore they expressed an opinion which was tutored.

Dr. B. V. Keskar: I never said that. I think my honourable friend has not heard what I said. I did not say that they did not want Indians to go there. They do not want any outsiders to go there, whether Europeans, Americans or Indians.

Sir, I have dealt with most of the points raised by my honourable friends in the debate. I would only like to express my appreciation of the very kind and appreciative tone of my honourable friends who have been kind enough to praise the work done by this Department during the year.

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am reluctant to take up the time of the House again but there are one or two matters on which perhaps I might be able to enlighten honourable members, more especially my colleague, Shri Kamath who has been raising from militant neutrality to the audit of every pie. May I inform him that if he wants militant neutrality I am going to be neither militant nor neutral. Therefore I disregard his suggestion and I am not going to follow the policy that he is advocating as it is a completely wrong policy. That is point No. 1. I shall explain why. I do not understand 5 P. M. this business of neutrality. Neutrality comes in in times of war. It has to be considered then. But it does not come in in times of peace. It has no meaning whatever. It makes no meaning whatever by saying that 'I shall be a permanent neutral whatever happens'. Nobody can say that as nobody knows what will happen. To say that shows utter lack of appreciation of reality.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I ask what is the meaning of the neutral foreign policy that we are supposed to be pursuing?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: My friend Shri Kamath might have used that word; I have never used that word. I consider that expression completely wrong as a description of our policy. Our policy is a positive constructive policy as my colleague Dr. Keskar said. What I venture to point out is this. Normally speaking the foreign policy of every country is based on its own interests naturally and on certain interests, shall we say, of world peace or better relations with other countries. But the first thing that normally prevails is inevitably every country thinks of its own interests. When its own interests coincide with wider interests it becomes very anxious about those wider interests also. In any intelligent view of world affairs today one can say that every country's interests lie in the maintenance and promotion of peace and the avoidance of war. That is the main thing. What happens in peace time is another matter. Normally in a country's foreign policy every item is considered on its merits—every matter that arises. When a country aligns itself with another country in times of war then they support each other apart from the merits of the case. So today in the United Nations questions are often considered not on the merits but with a view to attaining a position, by manoeuvring or otherwise, so as to be strong enough to meet a possible war in future. That is the approach often enough on questions today. India's approach has been different; that is to say, while it naturally has to take all facts into consideration, in the main it considers the question on the merits. I gave one or two instances. I shall give another instance—the instance of atomic energy. When this matter came up before the United Nations at the Paris session a few months back there was a great deal of difference of opinion between the two rival approaches. As it happened the Committee that was appointed had for its Chairman a distinguished Indian, and he brought quite a different approach to it, that is, a legalistic and judicious approach of trying to find out on the merits what should be done and not merely trying to counter this or that position. The approach was such a different approach that it immediately made its mark and everybody in the U. N. felt that here is somebody considering the question judiciously on merits and not merely as a game of chess to counter the other. We therefore propose to consider every

question on the merits and more especially in its relation to the problem of world peace: that is we want to minimise the conflicting elements and as far as possible to encourage those forces that tend to maintain peace. I do not wish to exaggerate our capacity to do so. May be we cannot do so: things have gone too far. May be that our attempts appear rather ridiculous to some people. But the point is first the negative point that we do not wish to encourage hostility in the world, and secondly the positive point that we wish in so far as we can to encourage the positive policy of peace—maintaining peace within the countries and peaceful relations and not rushing into a fray against this country or that country in the excitement of the moment or otherwise which does not do any good and which merely adds to the bitterness of the situation. Therefore our policy is not a policy of sitting on the hedge; it is not also a middle on the road policy as some people imagine. It is a positive policy of always seeking to do something which may somewhat lessen the tensions of the moment and thereby possibly prevent any great catastrophe from happening: because that catastrophe will injure us tremendously as it will injure every other country in the world. As I said it will be presumptuous on my part to say that we can affect the pace of world events. I do not say so, that we can do it or that we are likely to affect it very much. Nevertheless I think that we might affect it to some extent; to a small extent we do affect it. That extent might grow. It is worth trying and we are going to try.

This morning I ventured to say that India by virtue of her past genius if you like, culture if you like, has got perhaps a special role to play. I generally do not encourage the idea, which is a peculiar product of intensive nationalism, of each person thinking his country as a chosen country of God—normally the people of each country think that they are the chosen people; whether it is in America or Europe or Asia we all tend to think that we are the chosen race—I do not wish to encourage that idea. I am proud enough of my people, my country, my heritage, but it is a narrow-minded view to think that we are the chosen people and all the others are outside pale. Nevertheless I do think that India has played a tremendous role in history—a vital role—and in spite of her subject condition and degradation there is tremendous vitality in her, and now that the fetters and the bars that prevented her from going ahead have been removed that vitality will come into play again. That vitality has something distinctive about it. It may be that that distinctiveness may make a difference to world affairs. I think it might. It is a curious parallel if I place it before you, but still it helps a little. Today possibly the symbol of the West is the atom bomb. People think in terms of it. People are frightened of it. People prepare for it and devote all their energies to it. It is a curious combination: it is almost a symbol of the West today. You devote all your energies to promoting something which you fear most! Everybody is frightened of it. It is a terrific thing, and yet all energies are spent in making that. So the atom bomb has become the symbol of the age today so far as the West is concerned. I do not want to make the atom bomb the symbol of India. Our Great Leader gave us the spinning wheel as the symbol of India. That spinning wheel with a certain variation we adopted in our National Flag and thereby we brought in not only that idea of peace but also that ancient idea of Indian culture which is represented by this wheel for thousands of years in India. Now we may be unworthy people to come up to our Great Leader's expectations or to the symbol of the wheel in our Flag. Nevertheless it does symbolise India. And that is the difference—the Atom Bomb on the one side and this Wheel on the other. And, weak or strong, we shall stand by this Wheel and carry on our foreign policy accordingly.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put the demands to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,17,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,00,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Tribal Areas'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,59,40,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter Eleven the Clock on Wednesday, the 9th March, 1949.